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Rewards of literary poker

Valerie Grove reveals how the demon king won a fortune for Martin Amis's latest book, **p15**



20p theatre seat

A top show for the price of *The Times*
Details, token page 9



Beware shock-wave radio

Libby Purves explains the problems of watching other people's language on air, **page 14**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,163 FRIDAY JANUARY 13 1995



Warning against Paris-Bonn link

Hurd insists role in EU for Britain

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, AND WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

DOUGLAS HURD gave a strong warning to France and Germany yesterday that they could not decide the future of the European Union between them, and underlined Britain's determination to play a full part in shaping Europe's destiny.

The Foreign Secretary called on France to work more closely with Britain and to pre-empt any suggestion that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and the next French president could set the agenda for Europe as the two countries had before the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Hurd said: "The European Community would not have come to birth without the partnership of France and Germany. But I do not believe the European Union can succeed without the participation of Britain." Mr Hurd praised the Franco-German partnership but said: "The development of ideas in Europe cannot be confined to two states, however important."

His words were described by allies as a "shot across the bows" of Paris and Bonn. But as he spoke out there were indications that France and Germany are intensifying behind-the-scenes preparations for next year's intergovernmental conference (IGC); and there have been signs this week that leading members of the centre-right French government are still leaning towards the idea of a two-tier EU, with a small group proceeding to closer integration on their own.

In a joint article published in *Le Monde* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* yesterday, Alain Juppé and Klaus Kinkel, the French and German foreign ministers, wrote that the EU will succeed only "if the decision-making competencies of its institutions are preserved and strengthened ... In view of these aims, both countries are already preparing, in close co-operation, the IGC in 1996." Ahead of the IGC, they wrote, "France and Germany know better than ever that there exists no alternative to a Franco-German understanding."



Hurd: delivered a shot across the bows

In his speech yesterday to the French Institute for International Relations, Mr Hurd emphasised the areas of agreement between London and Paris. In a reference to the blueprint for the EU's future outlined by Bonn's governing Christian Democrats (CDU) last year, Mr Hurd said: "Neither Britain nor France joined the European Community in order to assist at the withering away of the nation state. Both our governments are clear in rejecting the notion that the only good European is one who believes in a steady flow of powers to a central European executive and a central European parliament."

At a briefing this week, M Juppé said the IGC should "establish the foundation for certain countries to go ahead faster than other countries". In practice, he said, the IGC should create "a more prominent and efficient Council of Ministers", a reference to the French objective to strengthen the voting rights of the larger countries; changes to the role and powers of the European Commission; a "rationalisation" of the procedures of the European Parliament; and stronger "subsidiarity".

Alain Lamassoure, the French European affairs minister, said at the same briefing that the conference will put forward "important changes" to the European treaties, "to establish a true political and economic union ready to face the future".

The CDU parliamentary group has called for a hard core of EU countries involving Germany, France and the Benelux states to press ahead with monetary union and a more integrated, federal Europe with greater powers for the European Commission and the European Parliament.

Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, has distanced himself from the German proposal but offered his own idea of an inner circle of EU states, open to all those willing to participate fully in all common policies.

JUSTIN WILLIAMS



Prodigy's violin stolen

Vanessa-Mae Nicholson, 16, one of the world's most talented young musicians, whose 18th century violin worth £200,000 was stolen as she slept at her London home.

The former child prodigy — at 13 the youngest musician to play violin concertos by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky with the London Symphony Orchestra — was in shock after the theft of the Italian-made Guadagnini, one of only 300 in existence (Andrew Pierce writes). Vanessa-Mae has a contract with EMI. A new record, *The Violin Player*, is coming out shortly. Her mother, Pamela Nicholson, a pianist, said last night: "The violin has been all over the world with her. There is a lot of her own history attached to it." Lord Menuhin said: "A violin is a very personal part of one's life. It is a terrible thing to happen to someone so young and so early on in their career."

Dealers and auction rooms were alerted by police, and the violin will be difficult to sell because of its rarity.

Army ends daytime Belfast patrols

BY NICHOLAS WATT
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TROOPS will stop daytime patrols in Belfast from Sunday in the most significant response yet to the IRA ceasefire. Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable, also said last night that he hoped eventually to end night operations.

In an interview on Ulster Television he said: "I hope, if the situation continues to improve, it would be possible to extend it to the night time hours."

Sinn Fein said the decision to end day patrols showed that the Government had joined the peace process, and the SDLP hailed the move as a milestone in the history of Belfast. The Democratic Unionists condemned it, however, as "another crazy concession to the IRA".

In a statement which came four months after the IRA ceasefire, Sir Hugh said that the RUC alone would patrol the Greater Belfast area during the day because of the reduced security threat. "Over a period of time, and in concert with threat assessments, there has been a steady decline in the number of military personnel needed to support the RUC," he said.

The Chief Constable added that the decision would be kept under constant review, and stressed that troops were not being withdrawn from Northern Ireland. Soldiers would maintain their patrols at night because crowds had attacked troops and police at night since the ceasefires.

Dr Joe Hendron, SDLP MP for West Belfast, said that the move was "a milestone in the history of Greater Belfast" and a major step in the peace process.

It is understood that ministers may decide to withdraw some of the 18,000 troops in Northern Ireland in June or July if the ceasefires hold until the summer.

Preston leaves Guardian chair

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN AND ANDREW PIERCE

PETER PRESTON, Fleet Street's longest-serving newspaper editor, is giving up the editorship of *The Guardian* after one of the most turbulent periods in the publication's history.

Mr Preston, 56, is to become editor-in-chief of both *The Guardian* and its sister Sunday paper, *The Observer*, in a move designed to boost the flagging sales of the weekly title, it was announced last night. Jonathan Fenby, editor of *The Observer*, has resigned "by mutual agreement".

New editors will be appointed to *The Guardian* and *The Observer* by The Scott Trust, which owns the two papers, within two weeks. In the interim, John Price, deputy editor of *The Observer*, will be acting editor of the paper.

The reshuffle came on the same day that Mr Preston was voted the most impressive editor for the second consecutive year in a MORI survey of 34 of Britain's newspaper chiefs. He polled one third of the votes. "It's very nice to feel that other editors think you have been doing a good job. I'm cheered up," he said.

Mr Preston's first priority in his new job will be to reshape *The Observer*, which The Guardian bought from the industrial group Lonrho, on his advice, for £27 million in June 1993. Mr Fenby became editor shortly afterwards. Although insiders say that the paper has stemmed its losses by one third since the acquisition, some industry observers estimate losses for 1995 will be £25 million.

It is felt also within The Scott Trust that the paper needs key editorial changes to make it a closer fit with *The Guardian* and to strengthen both titles' sales.

Mr Preston said: "Tremendous strides have been made in restoring (*The Observer's*) commercial future, but there is evident need to ephasise our further commitment, to have a further push forward. I am glad to be helpful in making this possible."

The Observer's circulation rose by less than 1 per cent in the year to November 1994, the last month for which figures are available, compared to gains of nearly 5 per cent and 8 per cent at *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, and a drop of nearly 12 per cent at *The Independent on Sunday*.

Ian Jack, editor of *The Independent on Sunday*, is tipped to take Mr Fenby's job and Alan Rusbridger, deputy editor of *The Guardian*, is widely expected to become editor. *The Guardian* reshuffle comes after two large

Continued on page 2, col 4

Former envoy attacks Yeltsin

Boris Pankin, a former Soviet Foreign Minister and Russia's Ambassador to London until four months ago, has launched a devastating attack on President Yeltsin over the war in Chechenia. In *The Times* today he says Mr Yeltsin's administration is motivated only by a lust for power and a determination to hold on to it. He adds that he is in no doubt that Mr Yeltsin's time is over ..... **Page 16**

Accountants' exams

Results of the Institute of Chartered Accountants' Intermediate Examination, November 1994, will appear tomorrow. Copies will be on sale from 10pm this evening at Charing Cross, King's Cross and Victoria stations, Marble Arch and Leicester Square.

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Major attacks Blair over devolution

BY JILL SHERMAN AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

JOHN MAJOR clashed bitterly with Tony Blair yesterday over Labour's plans for a Scottish parliament which the Prime Minister claimed could lead to the break-up of the United Kingdom.

As Labour went on to the offensive over its proposals Mr Major accused Mr Blair of "running scared of the Scottish Nationalists" and insisted that devolved power would set Scotland back economically.

The confrontation came on a day when devolution was thrust into the centre of political debate, with all main opposition parties outlining their plans. They had been spurred by a speech in the morning by Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, in which he set out the case for constitutional change, arguing that devolution would strengthen the union rather than weaken it.

"This is devolution from the centre to bring government closer to the people. It is not separation," said Mr Brown.

Mr Major made clear in his New Year message that the Tories intend to exploit what they regard as one of Labour's most vulnerable areas. Yesterday the Prime Minister insisted that the Government would oppose the plans "lock, stock and barrel".

Mr Blair, relieved that the focus had finally turned from the Labour party's internal row over Clause Four, was determined to counter-attack at Prime Minister's question time in the Commons.

During angry exchanges, he repeatedly reminded Mr Major that the Conservatives' 1974 manifesto had pledged a Scottish assembly and promised to "free Scotland from the rigours of centralism".

"If devolution is such a dangerous proposal, then why did you and your party stand on such a policy in the 1974 election?"

Mr Major, thrown on to the defensive denied that the party has ever stood on such a policy. "It is dangerous. Every single aspect of what you now propose will lead inexorably to the circumstances where the UK itself might break up."

He claimed that the policy of

Continued on page 2, col 8

Brown's arguments, and Peter Riddell, page 9
Leading article, page 17

THE TIMES

30p ON SATURDAY



WEEKEND

Ginny Dougary on the mad, mad world of the working parent

MAGAZINE

Michael Theodoulou on British soldiers in Cyprus

VISION

Your 7-day TV and radio guide

Doctor suspended after nurse's op

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A SURGEON who allegedly told a theatre nurse to carry out an appendix operation on his patient was suspended yesterday after a public outcry over the fact that he had been allowed to continue working while the nurse was sent home pending an inquiry.

Sister Valerie Tomlinson admitted in a statement that she had performed an appendectomy on the orders of surgical registrar Tahir Bhatti at Treliske Hospital in Truro, Cornwall, .

She was suspended last week as an investigation was launched by the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust, whose report will go to the General Medical Council. It will consider whether a case for professional misconduct should be brought against the doctor.

Sources at the Royal College of Nursing who have read Mrs Tomlinson's statement questioned why Mr Bhatti's suspension was delayed.

The incident came to light after another member of the team involved in the NHS operation shortly before Christmas — from which the patient is making a full recovery — complained at what had happened. It is understood that the complainant said the doctor told the nurse: "In my country, people like you do this sort of operation."

Inquiries in Pakistan disclosed that only qualified doctors carry out surgery under rules similar to those in Britain.

Neither Mrs Tomlinson, of Rosenannon, near Newquay, nor Mr Bhatti, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons who has worked at the hospital since April, was available for comment.

Richard Green, of South and West regional health authority, said: "These are serious allegations which the authority and the Trust take with the utmost seriousness. We want to await the outcome of the investigation in order that we make an informed judgement about appropriate action." Mr Bhatti, he said, would be on paid leave until the inquiry is completed.

Brian Milstead, the Trust chief executive, said that from statements taken from the five people who attended the operation it was clear that the surgeon supervised through-

Continued on page 2, col 6

Writs flying in Saatchi battle with defectors

BY JON ASHWORTH

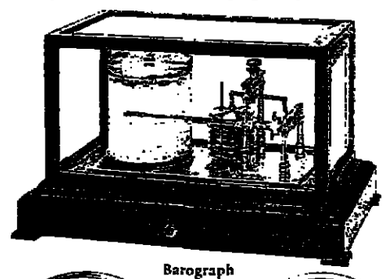
THE beleaguered management of the Saatchi & Saatchi advertising agency precipitated an exchange of writs yesterday in the running battle with Maurice Saatchi, its former chairman, and three defecting senior executives.

Writs were issued against the four, accusing them of conspiring to damage the group's business. Claims for damages are expected to run into millions of pounds. Sir Tim Bell, the public relations guru, said on behalf of Mr Saatchi that the legal action was not unexpected, and declared: "We will be issuing counter-writs. We always anticipated a legal battle."

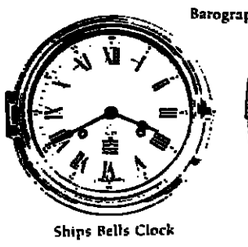
The opening move came hours after Mr Saatchi announced his intention to set up a rival advertising agency with three former top Saatchi & Saatchi men — Jeremy Sinclair, the acting chairman, Bill Muirhead, head of Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide's North American business, and David Kershaw, its head in Britain. The trio resigned this week and announced their intention to join Mr Saatchi as partners, despite warnings by the agency that they would be held to their contracts. Damages are also sought against Mr Saatchi for soliciting the other three. The action seeks to prevent the other three from joining a competing business or working for Saatchi & Saatchi clients, and to obtain damages for breach of contract from them. Saatchi & Saatchi shares plunged to new lows yesterday, ending the day down 10.5p at 97p.

Business letters, page 25

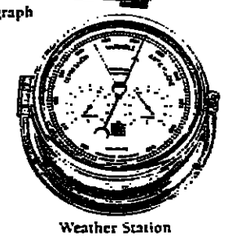
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Chief Rabbi condemns 'disreputable' movement

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Chief Rabbi has condemned an independent Jewish movement as "disreputable and unforgiveable". Dr Jonathan Sacks accused the Masorti, the most conservative of the more liberal movements, of adjusting Jewish law to suit secular fashion.

His statement highlights the deepening rift in the Jewish community over questions of tradition and belief. In a debate that centres on whether God dictated the Torah, the first five books of the Bible, to Moses on Mount Sinai. Dr Sacks says: "Once a whole community loses its standards, everyone within it suffers."

The Jewish community in Britain, of about 300,000 people, is reportedly losing ten members a day through assimilation, emigration and a low birth rate. Dr Sacks believes that the answer to the community's survival lies in Orthodoxy.

He says that anyone who does not believe in *Torah min Hashamayim — the doctrine that the Torah, or the law, was dictated by God to Moses —* had "severed links with the faith of his ancestors". His statement, circulated in the Orthodox *Jewish Tribune* and leaked to today's *Jewish Chronicle*, makes particular reference to the growing Masorti movement. Dr Sacks, in his strongest statement since assuming office three years ago, says that the movement poses a threat to the future of British Jewry.

The Masorti, a movement of several thousand, with groups and synagogues mainly in and around London, adhere to *halachah*, oral law, and *mitzvot*, the 613 positive and negative commandments in the *Torah*. But they question the origins of the *Torah*, agreed by most biblical scholars to have been written in several stages.

Dr Sacks's statement comes amid attempts by the Masorti, headed by Rabbi Louis Jacobs, of the New London Synagogue in north London, to found a new base in Manchester. Dr Jacobs will address an all-day study meeting on Masorti philosophy in Manchester later this month. Leading members of the Orthodox rabbinate in the city have pledged to fight Masorti attempts to gain a foothold.

Dr Sacks says: "Undeniably, though, Anglo-Jewry faces a danger. The Masorti movement is engaged in a countrywide campaign to start new branches, particularly in the provinces. The specific danger is that it is being conducted with what seems to be a serious attempt to mislead."

He says Masorti claims to be Orthodox are "disreputable and unforgiveable". Quoting Jewish sages, he says "the worst kind of dishonesty is intellectual dishonesty".

Governors poised for court action over jail sacking

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

PRISON governors are threatening legal action over the validity of the decision to remove John Marriott from his post as governor of Parkhurst jail. The threat of a court challenge is another blow to the Prison Service as its senior managers attempt to restore morale among governors and staff in the wake *escapes, riots and the suicide* of Frederick West.

Legal advisers for the Prison Governors' Association are to consider whether judicial review proceedings can be brought over the way in which Mr Marriott was ordered to leave his post.

A statement from the PGA said the advisers would consider if there had been "serious flaws in the interpretation of civil service rules and the interpretation of natural justice".

Mr Marriott, 48, was relieved of his duties at the prison on Tuesday pending a security and disciplinary inquiries into the escape of two murderers and an arsonist from the top security jail in the Isle of Wight.

More than 48 hours after *the announcement by Michael* Howard, Mr Marriott had not received any written reasons for his removal. Last night he was described by colleagues as being "shocked, depressed and angry" at his treatment.

Governors throughout the country had expressed "great anger" over the treatment of Mr Marriott and other staff at the Isle of Wight jail, the *statement said. The move to* try to test the manner of his removal in the courts indicates that Derek Lewis, director-general of the Prison Service, has failed to calm down the anger and dismay among many of the country's 1,000 governors.

In a letter to the PGA he *lavished praise on Mr Marri*ott, describing him as a man noted for his "dedication, humanity, courage and innovation".

Last night Mr Lewis said he did not believe there had been a breach of civil service rules in the transfer of Mr Marriott from the jail to Prison Service headquarters.

He denied he was at odds with Mr Howard over the issue. "There is absolutely no disagreement between me and *the Home Secretary on this.*" He added: "This was an *operational decision that we* felt had to be taken in the wake of the very serious escape from Parkhurst and the fact was that there was a great deal of uncertainty created."

He insisted that no decision had been taken over Mr Marriott's future as an operational governor. "There is no decision at all as to what may happen to Mr Marriott after the various investigations *have been completed," he said.*

The decision to seek legal *advice was taken at a meeting* of the PGA's 16-strong *national executive.* The meeting is also understood to have discussed whether to withdraw co-operation with the Prison Service if they fail to receive an adequate response to a series of proposals put to the service and intended to improve morale.

☐ Prisoners must earn the right to watch television through good behaviour, Michael Forsyth, a junior *Home Office Minister, said.* He told the Commons inmates at only two prisons — Garth, near Preston, and Stocken, Leicestershire — could watch television, including satellite stations, in their own cells.

Police wait to arrest escaper

BY OUR HOME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE in the Irish Republic were keeping watch on premises in Dublin last night where a man on the run from prison in England has been found.

A 24-hour surveillance operation was mounted after Michael Thynne, 43, was spotted in the city. Thynne, who escaped from Littlehey prison on Sunday, knows the police are watching the building and will move to arrest him when a warrant for his arrest and extradition arrives from Cambridgeshire police.

A spokesman for the Garda said last night: "We are watching him from a distance. He knows we are keeping him under surveillance."

The other two men who escaped with Thynne were recaptured in Manchester yesterday. Darren Ogden, 23, and Gary Thompson, 25, were arrested by police at Middleton in Greater Manchester. A third man was detained on suspicion of harbouring the escapers.

Thynne was once jailed for life for rape but was serving a sentence at Littlehey after being convicted for burglary and robbery. He has a scar on one cheek and was given a life sentence for rape after a trial at the Old Bailey in October 1975.

He absconded twice from Leyhill open prison in Gloucestershire, was released in 1992 but convicted of burglary and attempted robbery in 1993 when he received a *three-year term.*

The three men fled from *Littlehey jail near Hunting*don in Cambridgeshire on Sunday night as the three escapers from Parkhurst were recaptured.

KIERAN DOHERTY



Peter Preston: longest-serving Fleet Street editor

Preston stands down as Guardian editor

Continued from page 1

embarrassments for the paper. Last month Richard Gott, a senior *Guardian* executive, resigned after *The Spectator* magazine named him as a confidential contact for the KGB for many years.

In November MPs called for Mr Preston's resignation after he admitted using forged *Commons writing paper in* order to expose detail's of Jonathan Aitken MP's bill at the Ritz Hotel in Paris as part of the paper's investigations into the undeclared interests of Tory MPs. Libel writs were issued against *The Guardian* by Neil Hamilton, who resigned as Trade Minister in the wake of the paper's cash-for-questions revelations.

The Scott Trust, which is chaired by the political columnist Hugo Young, will meet on Monday to discuss the selection *of the new editors. The Guardian* is rare among *national newspapers in allowing* its staff a say in the appointment. Mr Preston was chosen for the editorship in 1975 by a panel of journalists, members of the Scott Trust and management executives.

Doctor suspended after nurse's op

Continued from page 1

out the operation. Nine days afterwards Michael Boyce, the Trust's medical director, visited the patient and told him what had happened. "He seems quite happy with his treatment," Mr Milstead. He wanted to assure patients that this was a "highly unusual event".

Margaret Beckett, Shadow *Health Secretary, called on* Virginia Bottomley, the *Health Secretary, to hold an* inquiry and said: "This is extraordinary. She must find out how this happened so that it cannot happen again."

The RCN said the incident was believed to be the first in which a nurse had performed a full operation, including the incision, removal of the appendix, and stitching up of the patient. Howard Catton, south-west officer for the RCN, said: "Mrs Tomlinson is an experienced theatre sister. *But we cannot condone work* outside the scope of nursing duties. It's wrong and should not be done. Nurses are there to assist surgeons, not to perform appendix removals or any other operations."

Jan Honey, for the Trust, said the internal inquiry should report. A statement issued later said that "in the present circumstances and because of the difficulties involved in Mr Bhatti carrying out his present duties" it had been agreed he should take "leave of absence".

Trevor Parsons, *regional of*ficer with the health service union Unison, said: "We want an ihdependent inquiry. You cannot have the Trust management investigating Trust policies. We don't believe this is a one off; similar things may have happened in the past. We want to know about them."

Meanwhile patients' watchdogs expressed their horror at the allegations. Geoff Poxon of *Cornwall Community Health* Council said: "If a nurse has *done this, it is quite appalling* and a breach of every code *that exists.*"

Patients' consent forms for operations vary from Trust to Trust, but none allows for surgery by unqualified staff.

Germans hail Major over war ceremonies

John Major earned high praise yesterday from Germans who hailed his decision to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the war with reflective ceremonies rather than military pomp. In a front-page editorial, Dresden's largest newspaper, the *Sächsische Zeitung*, said it was "a wise decision". Other newspapers made similar comments.

Dresden will mark the fiftieth anniversary of its bombardment by the British and US Air Forces on February 13 in a ceremony that is sure to test Anglo-German relations. In 1992 Dresdeners booed and threw eggs at the Queen when she visited the city. Next month the Queen will be represented by the Duke of Kent. The British, said the Dresden newspaper, were now trying hard to set a new tone. "By not staging a parade the British have sent a clear signal that they are ready to be sensitive about the past, a sensitivity that has not always been apparent in the past few years."

Doctors' overwork case

Junior hospital doctors are taking their employers to an industrial tribunal next week claiming they are overworked and underpaid. Eleven medical and surgical juniors, who work at the Royal Alexandria Hospital in Paisley, are *bringing their complaint under the terms* of the Wages Act. They will argue that their pay does not take into account the intensity of their work.

Shankill suspect silent

Lord Justice MacDermott yesterday reserved judgment in the trial of Sean Kelly, who is accused of murdering nine people in an IRA bomb attack in Shankill Road, Belfast, in October 1993. Kelly, 20, from the Ardoyne area of north Belfast, refused to give evidence on his own behalf at Belfast Crown Court yesterday after his counsel said on Wednesday *that he would not be contesting the prosecution evidence.*

Aid workers accused

Two British aid workers being held in Sierra Leone by rebels were accused by Foday Sankoh, of the Revolutionary United Front, of helping government troops in the west African country. Calum Murray and Robert d'Cruz, of Voluntary Service Overseas, disappeared during a rebel raid on November 7. The Foreign Office said they were aid workers and had nothing to do with the Sierra Leone Government.

Meningitis man dies

Malcolm Batty, 43, from Dover, has died and two children are seriously ill after contracting meningococcal meningitis, the same strain that killed two five-year-old classmates in Sussex in the past two weeks. Laura Boorman, 8, a pupil of River Primary School, Dover is being treated at Guy's Hospital, London, and Joshua Sleath, of Elvington, Kent, is at Buckland Hospital, Dover.

Killer boyfriend jailed

The boyfriend of a pregnant former beauty queen was sentenced to life imprisonment by Maidstone Crown Court yesterday after pleading guilty to murdering her by stabbing *her nearly 50 times as their year-old son looked on. Jason* Anderson, 25, from Ramsgate, Kent, admitted murdering *Alison Thorpe, 27, in November 1993. Her body was found* in the passenger seat of her car in a supermarket car park.

Edmonds in court win



Noel Edmonds, right, the television presenter, was granted a High Court order yesterday to protect the name Crinkley Bottom. The injunction was granted to Unique Group, a company owned by Edmonds and his wife Helen. It restrains *Crinkley Bottom Ltd.* of Gosforth, Newcastle, and three food and drink firms, from using the name pending a possible trial over alleged copyright breaches.

Police in crash payout

The family of a man killed in a collision with a car driven by a policeman who had been drinking will receive £187,500 compensation from the Metropolitan Police. Raymond Close, 34, of Tolworth, southwest London, died after his Cortina was hit by Detective Constable Steven Bembow's car at *Hampton, west London, in December 1992.* The officer was later convicted of causing death by dangerous driving.

Pools winner dies

A factory worker who claimed his £2 million pools win had brought nothing but bad luck has died of lung cancer three years after his Littlewoods windfall. Doug Beynon, 69, of Creigiau, Mid Glamorgan, told friends before he died that he and his wife would have swapped every penny of the win for their old life. His wife, Joyce, suffered a stroke during a celebratory cruise and became almost housebound.

CPS drops child sex abuse case

BY PAUL WILKINSON

FOUR *married couples* were cleared yesterday of involvement in an occult child sex ring after the prosecution offered no evidence. The court was told that allegations by four children of devil worship and ritual animal slaughter could not be substantiated.

The eight, who all live close to each other in a quiet, *middle-class, residential sub*urb of Bishop Auckland in Co Durham, were arrested last *year after children* claimed they had subjected them to *sexual abuse during witch*craft and satanic rituals in an attic. The children, aged from six to sixteen, claimed they were drugged during the sessions and that photographs were taken.

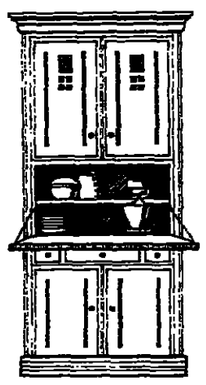
But yesterday David Robson, QC, for the prosecution, *told* Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court that the charges *against the eight* were being dropped because much of the evidence was uncorroborated.

Outside court one of the accused, Brian Marsh, 46, a *junior school teacher, said:* "We would have preferred a trial because that was our best hope for the truth to come out. What is more worrying is that it can happen to anybody. There will be nothing to stop it once a kid points a finger. It is just one long slide from that to the day you appear in court.

"The police who dealt with *us were quite fair and always* gave the impression they knew the children were talking a load of rubbish, but behind them were senior officers, people in social services, who pressed ahead. It all got totally out of hand. Everything they said was automatically believed. They were encouraged to say more and more."

John and Patricia Staines, Brian and Pauline Marsh, Robert and Vivienne Crosby, and David and Victoria Thomas had denied a charge of conspiring to indecently assault five children between *June 1990 and last February.*

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Men from the ministry follow trail of the beast

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE *men from the ministry* are to spend £8,200 in an attempt to solve the mystery of the Beast of Bodmin Moor, a big cat reputed to roam the Cornish countryside killing livestock.

Officially the beast does not exist, but Angela Browning, a junior Agriculture Minister, announced yesterday that zoologists from her department's research division will devote 26 days over the next two to three months to hunting the elusive predator.

Mrs Browning, MP for Tiverton, Devon, said: "I am aware of the serious concern felt by many people in the Bodmin area that particularly savage animals might have established themselves on the moor and are posing a threat to livestock and possibly people.

"I have asked for an investigation to be carried out to see if positive evidence can be obtained about the possible existence of a big cat or cats. Once the investigators have reported and the results have been considered, an announcement will be made *regarding any further action* which might be taken."

The researchers will study written and photographic evidence of sightings of the cat, take plaster casts of unusual footprints for matching against those of exotic cats kept in zoos, and investigate the next five livestock deaths blamed on the cat.

Over the past 12 years there have been more than 100 claimed sightings of big cats on Bodmin Moor. Farmers say the beast has killed scores of sheep and even some newborn calves. One has video footage of what appears to be a black panther.

Rosemary Rhodes, who has a smallholding a few miles from Jamaica Inn, made famous by the novelist Daphne du Maurier, said: "I am delighted we are at last being taken seriously. Last April I stopped keeping sheep after I lost four breeding ewes. I have no doubt at all they were killed by a big cat."

Mrs Rhodes has video film, taken about a year ago, of what she believes is a melanistic leopard, the more correct name for a black panther. She also has more recent *footage of what she thinks is a* panther cub. Both sets of film have been handed to the ministry.

"I took the film at night using a powerful torch plugged into the battery of my Land Rover," she said. "If you drive over the moor lanes at night you can spot where the cats are because their eyes shine a peculiar bright lemon yellow in the dark. The cub just sat and watched us filming and then went away."

Douglas Richardson, curator of mammals at London Zoo, has seen the film and is confident that the animal is a black panther. He has also been shown dead sheep with wounds consistent with an attack by a big cat. "If cornered the animal could be a threat to unattended, small children," he said.

Sightings of large wild cats have been reported from all over Britain for years, starting with the so-called Surrey Puma near Godalming in 1963. None has been proved to exist.



Devolution

Continued from page 1

a tax-raising assembly would place Scot against Scot, Scot against Briton, and would lose Scotland investment. Mr Major said it would not be proper for Scottish MPs, with voting rights in their own parliament, to have the same voting rights on behalf of other parts of the UK.

Mr Brown implied that Labour planned to move control away from a centralised state but he gave few details.

Labour is committed to legislation on a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly in their first year of office but Mr Blair is still concerned that the argument for devolution has not been won in the country.

Later Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary, argued that there could be further changes to the amount of time given to Scottish business at Westminster as an alternative to devolution. There could also be more opportunities for other regional debate at Westminster, he said.

Asked about Tory support for and Labour opposition to devolution in 1974, he said: "Labour were right then and we were wrong then."

Court told that jealous student wanted to punish ex-girlfriend in worst possible way

Boyfriend 'killed lover's parents after being jilted'

By Lin Jenkins

A MOROCCAN student followed his former girlfriend to England and murdered her parents because he could not accept that she had finished their affair, a court was told yesterday.

Amine Akanour, 25, stabbed Janet Taylor to death with a kitchen knife in her home before killing the family's pet dog. He then waited for Dr Barry Taylor, a mathematics lecturer at Portsmouth University, to arrive home and battered him to death with a hammer, Winchester Crown Court was told.

Michael Vere-Hodge, QC, said Mr Akanour met Jennifer Taylor, 23, at Limoges University in France during the sandwich year of her four-year law degree at Birmingham University. She had ended the relationship and returned to England but Mr Akanour, who was jealous, possessive and overbearing, followed her and continued to pester her while knowing his advances were unwelcome, Mr Vere-Hodge claimed.

Perhaps, he said, Mr Akanour perceived that Dr and Mrs Taylor were an obstacle to his reconciliation with Miss Taylor. "Maybe he almost felt to punish Miss Taylor in the worst possible way and that was to kill her parents."

Miss Taylor, an only child, told the court: "He was by nature a heated person, it was not uncommon for him to hit things and slam the door. I vowed that if violence was aimed at me that would be it and it was."



Barry Taylor: battered to death with hammer



Janet Taylor: knifed after answering door

She described how she refused to sleep with him before her examinations. He grew angry and demanded she leave his room, she said. "He grabbed me and threw me back and I hit a wall rather hard," she said. "I saw the hate in his eyes in that split second. It was a very violent reaction."

Miss Taylor went to Limoges in September 1992 and in April the following year she and Mr Akanour became lovers. From the start, Mr Vere-Hodge, told the jury, Mr Akanour "displayed jealous and possessive moods" but the relationship carried on. Mr Vere-Hodge said that while the couple were going out they travelled to England to visit Miss Taylor's parents in Southsea, Hampshire.

"They stayed at the family home and had a happy time. There was a happy relationship between her parents and the defendant and they made him welcome in their home. But when they returned to France he continued to be possessive and overbearing."

Mr Vere-Hodge said Mr Akanour was unable to understand why Miss Taylor needed to devote time to pass her exams. In June 1993 she decided to finish their affair and moved to a hotel, the address of which she kept secret so Mr Akanour would not pester her. Later that month she returned to England but Mr Akanour followed.

"He began following her and pestering her. He was unwelcome and he knew it. When Miss Taylor returned to university in Birmingham Mr Akanour again followed her. She became so worried that she told academic staff and the police were called in. Security staff on the campus were given a photograph of Mr Akanour."



Jenny Taylor met Amine Akanour in France. He allegedly followed her to England after she ended the affair

On one occasion, in an attempt to win Miss Taylor back, Mr Akanour told her that his mother had died and his father was dying of cancer, Mr Vere-Hodge said. "This was designed to re-establish himself in her affections by sympathy. He also confronted her in the street and complained that she was wearing his mother's scarf."

He told the court that Mr Akanour made a gesture towards her throat and said "don't make me do something I am going to regret". "Miss Taylor became so frightened she took refuge in a chemist's shop, where she phoned some student friends who she asked to come and rescue her."

Mr Vere-Hodge told the court that on December 15 Mr Akanour went to the home of Miss Taylor's parents, armed with a kitchen knife stolen from a restaurant and a hammer borrowed from an aquaintance. Mrs Taylor, 46, who was partially disabled, was was on the telephone when the doorbell rang, Mr Vere-Hodge said. She sounded surprised when she answered it and said "Oh" before ending the call. "In a short space of time the defendant attacked, repeatedly stabbing Mrs Taylor with the kitchen knife.

A post mortem showed injuries to her hands where she had tried to fend off repeated slashings. "Quite appalling injuries were inflicted on her. Her throat was cut by slashes to the point where she was virtually decapitated."

Mr Akanour allegedly put her body upside down in a broom cupboard before killing the family's pet dog Mitzie, a Dutch barge dog, with the knife and hammer and carrying the body upstairs to the main bedroom.

Mr Vere-Hodge said he leafed through letters, put on the television, telephoned Israel and drank two whiskies while awaiting Dr Taylor's return. Dr Taylor, 45, was attacked first outside the home and then indoors. He too tried to defend himself but soon lay dying with a fractured skull "to the point where his brains were visible", Mr Vere-Hodge said.

Neighbours alerted by his cries went to the house and called the police after seeing an unknown man inside. Mr Akanour was found near by dishevelled and covered in blood.

Mr Akanour, of no fixed address, denies murdering Dr and Mrs Taylor. The trial, which is expected to last four weeks continues today.

Woman pilot tells of cutlery insult

By Marianne Darch

AN AIRLINE'S only female pilot was told by a colleague that women should not be let loose with anything more technical than a knife and fork, it was alleged yesterday.

Sarah Valentine, 36, had raised a mechanical problem with another Airtours pilot on a flight from Birmingham to Izmir in Turkey. She told an industrial tribunal that she found his response horrible and degrading.

On another occasion a pilot announced to passengers: "The first officer is Ms Valentine and yes, ladies and gentlemen, she is a woman. We have them in the front as well as the back these days so don't blame me."

Ms Valentine from Knowle, near Solihull, alleged she had endured a campaign of sexual harassment by male colleagues. She is claiming sexual discrimination. The company says she was fired for gross misconduct in December 1993, after failing a regular test.

Ms Valentine told the tribunal in Birmingham that a senior colleague tried to persuade her to go out with him and subsequently told her she would have no chance of flying to long-haul destinations.

Ms Valentine said Airtours had neglected her training and that a male trainee pilot had been allowed to take a second test after initially failing. The hearing continues.

Drugs case policemen remanded

THREE police officers appeared in court yesterday after an internal inquiry into bribery and corruption.

Sergeant Hamish Moir and PC Neil Cooper, both 35, appeared together in private at Aberdeen Sheriff Court, accused of supplying controlled drugs and inciting another person to fabricate evidence. PC James Grimmer, 34, appeared separately charged with selling stolen goods and possessing cannabis.

Sgt Moir was charged with supplying cannabis and attempting to pervert the course of justice by fabricating evidence.

PC Cooper faced a charge of disclosing confidential information about police operations in exchange for payment, supplying cannabis and three futher charges.

Sgt Moir and PC Cooper jointly faced a charge of inciting another person to fabricate evidence.

Sgt Moir and PC Cooper were remanded in custody for a week. PC Grimmer was released on bail.

'Rape victim like lamb to slaughter'

By Kathryn Knight

A MILLIONAIRE'S wife told a court yesterday that she was raped by an intruder after being taken to her bedroom "like a lamb to the slaughter", fearing for her life.

The American told the Old Bailey jury that Leon Blackwood, 20, forced his way into her home and raped her after stealing her £5,000 Rolex watch, wedding ring and camera. Blackwood, from Chelsea, southwest London, admits robbery but denies rape.

Rebecca Poulet, for the prosecution, said Blackwood followed the woman home after noticing her gold watch as she walked two cocker spaniels near her home in Belgravia. He rang the doorbell and asked for directions to Victoria Station.

The victim, who had been preparing brunch for guests, said she froze in fear as the robber demanded she hand over the watch and wedding and signet rings. "I was just completely terrified and in shock." She said he asked for money, saying "People like you are rolling in it. Why should you have everything and I have nothing?" Her daughter and two cousins were sleeping upstairs. "I did not know what to do," she said. "How could I bring this on three people in this house who are depending on me?"

Blackwood revealed he had a knife, she said. "I was just completely terrified and in shock. He was very controlled. He asked me for money and I told him that I did not have any. He said, 'Where's your bedroom?' and I thought, 'Oh my God'. Like a lamb to the slaughter I went up the stairs, he just pushed me up. I feared for my life, I didn't think I'd come out of this alive."

Blackwood forced her into a sex act before raping her, she said. "It was a nightmare." Blackwood tried to escape across the roof after hearing police sirens. He was arrested carrying the watch, rings and camera.

The case continues.

Sole suspect cleared of affray over race attack

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A FORMER council caretaker was cleared yesterday of taking part in an attack on an Asian student that severely disabled him and sparked racial violence in east London.

A jury at Southwark Crown Court cleared John Rutter, 22, from Stepney, of affray involving Quaddus Ali in September 1993. He smiled as the verdict was announced and turned to applauding relatives and friends in the public gallery. Later he said: "I have been innocent all the way through and justice has finally proved that. I am relieved I have been acquitted. There were no grounds for suspicion."

Mr Rutter was the only person to stand trial over the attack. The jury was told that Mr Ali, now 18, and friends were waiting for another companion in Commercial Road, Stepney, when they were set upon by white youths. Mr Ali suffered a brain haemorrhage and spent four months in a coma on a life-support machine. Now he has to struggle to speak and cannot feed or dress himself.

The acquittal could heighten anger in the Asian community. Yesterday Mohammad Haque, chairman of the Committee for Bangladeshi Rights in the UK, said that the four-day trial and the police investigation were "gross incompetence" and a "shambles". Begum Suratun Nessa, Mr Ali's widowed mother, said in a statement: "I am frightened. I have been frightened from the moment my son was nearly killed. Those who almost killed him will feel even more confident now."

John Williams, for the prosecution, told the court that Mr Rutter was clearly part of the general violence that night. He told a work superior, Carl Lynch, that the attack was in revenge for difficulties caused to his younger sister. Mr Rutter suddenly left for Norfolk a few weeks later.

But George Carter-Stephenson, for the defence, said that Mr Lynch admitted he had been told by his council employers that if he did not cooperate with the police he would lose his job as head caretaker with Tower Hamlets. Mr Carter-Stephenson said that Mr Lynch, who had criminal convictions for violence and dishonesty, was not to be trusted and that his alleged account of the confession could not be relied upon.

Witnesses said that those responsible were blond, whereas Mr Rutter was dark-haired. The one prosecution witness to speak of a dark-haired attacker gave a description that did not match Mr Rutter. Eight witnesses failed to pick him out.



Quaddus Ali: severe disability after attack



Rutter: witnesses failed to identify him

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Ministers pledge rights for disabled – in 15 years' time

BY JILL SHERMAN AND JEREMY LAURANCE

LEGAL changes to improve the rights of disabled people and to make discrimination against them illegal were unveiled by the Government yesterday. However, ministers admitted that the legislation might be phased in over 15 years and that overall public and private sector spending on the disabled would be capped to a maximum of about £1.5 billion.

Industry is expected to pick up most of the bill, with only £70 million to £80 million being funded from the Exchequer. Disability organisations and Opposition MPs protested that the Bill did not go far enough and said that disabled people would remain second-class citizens. They called for a Disability Rights Commission, similar to the Commission of Racial Equality and the Equal Opportunities Commission, to enforce disabled anti-discrimination law.

William Hague, Minister for Disabled People, said that the Disability Discrimination Bill represented an "historic advance" which showed the Government's determination to end discrimination.

The Bill, introduced after a long campaign supported by MPs from all parties, will make it illegal for employers to discriminate against disabled people. Shops, restaurants, theatres and cinemas will be required to provide wheelchair access if they can do so within financial limits yet to be set. A National Disability Council will advise the Government on eliminating discrimination.

The Bill falls considerably short of the measures contained in a private member's Bill introduced by the Labour MP Roger Berry last year. That Bill was talked out by the Government because of concerns about the cost, estimated at £17.5 billion.

Social security sources disclosed that the measures contained in the Bill would be phased in over a period of between five and 15 years. The extent of building alterations required to improve wheelchair access will be determined by financial limits, probably set at 5 to 10 per cent of the rateable value of each premises. The cost to an average business could range from £500 to £1,500 over the whole period.

The timetable and the financial limits will be decided after the Bill is enacted this summer. They will be introduced as secondary legislation after a short consultation period. MPs will therefore have to vote on a measure whose principal elements have not been decided.

Under a separate White Paper, also published yesterday, the Government outlined wider policies for tackling discrimination, not contained in the Bill, including measures on education and public transport. All new schools will have to be designed with access for wheelchairs, and schools will be able to bid for central funds to improve existing facilities for disabled people.

All new buses will have to be designed with low flooring, and railways and bus stations will be made more accessible. Low-floor buses are 30-40 per cent more expensive and the cost could be prohibitive to bus companies. Ministers hope that once these buses become a requirement their cost will fall, but they concede the bill could run into tens of millions of pounds.

Law will demand improved access

THE Bill will provide the disabled with a right of access to public buildings and places of employment (Jeremy Laurance writes).

Cinemas, restaurants and shops will be required to provide access but only if they can make the adjustment within the rateable value limits.

Only "reasonable" access is required. A restaurant could, for example, have one designated table for disabled people. A tiny corner shop would be within the law if it merely had a bell outside which a disabled person could ring to be served.

Refusing to serve disabled customers will become illegal except in special circumstances. For example, people cannot be barred from theatres or restaurants but they could be excluded from athletic training sessions.

Cinemas and theatres would also be expected to provide hearing aids and tapes for the deaf and the blind. Detailed guidance for each type of premises is expected to be drawn up after the consultation period this autumn.

Many taxis are inaccessible to wheelchair passengers which is "not acceptable", the White Paper says. New purpose-built taxis are already required to accommodate wheelchairs and changes to licensing arrangements could extend the requirement.

London Underground, however, and similar transport systems elsewhere are regarded as too expensive to improve except where new stations are being built.

On **employment**, the new measures will make it unlawful for an employer to treat a disabled person less favourably than other staff because of their disability. However, small businesses — with less than 20 employees — will be exempt.

The legislation will require employers to make a "reasonable" adjustment to working conditions or the workplace, to help to overcome the practical effects of disability.

Employers would be able to take account of the costs of the adjustment and decide whether this falls within the financial limit set. They would not have to make the best adjustment possible or to make adaptations for potential future employees.



MARTIN KEENE

The Princess of Wales presents an award to Kari Kotila, the Finnish student who dived in to save the tramp

Princess honours fellow lifesavers

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE Princess of Wales was reunited yesterday with the Finnish student who pulled a drowning tramp from a canal in Regent's Park while she called for an ambulance on her mobile phone. The Princess presented a Royal Humane Society bravery certificate to Kari Kotila, 30, a music student from Helsinki, for his part in the rescue last May.

Mr Kotila, who handed his wallet and backpack to the Princess before jumping into the water and rescuing Martin O'Donoghue, 42, said that her assistance had been invaluable. "I could not have done it without her," he said. "She was a very reassuring and calming influence. I did not think about what I had done until the day after — when I burst into tears."

The Princess also presented a certificate to Derek Caldwell, 26, a probationer with the Royal Parks Constabulary, who helped to resuscitate Mr O'Donoghue. "There was a small crowd gathered when I arrived, but the Princess was the only one to join in and help," he said. He told the Princess that he had seen Mr O'Donoghue in the London park a few days ago and that he appeared very glad to be alive. The Princess had visited Mr O'Donoghue twice while he was still unconscious in hospital.

The Princess, who had been jogging when her car was flagged down by a group of tourists, told PC Caldwell that she had been ready to dive into the canal if Mr Kotila had not jumped in first. "I thought she was joking, but she was very serious. I think she would have done it," he said.

The award ceremony, at Hyde Park police station, was attended by Iain Sproat, junior Heritage Minister, and Leif Blomqvist, the Finnish ambassador. The Royal Humane Society had been unable to find Mr O'Donoghue.

Prince hails success of National Trust

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE Prince of Wales praised the achievements of the National Trust yesterday as it launched its centenary year celebrations.

The Prince, patron of the trust's 100th birthday programme, led a large gathering of the great and the good at the Grosvenor House hotel in London. Among them was Lord Charteris, the Queen's former private secretary, who recently said in an uncommonly frank interview that the Prince and Princess would certainly divorce.

The Prince arrived at the Grosvenor House hotel bearing scars on his nose and left temple, the result of a fall while skiing last week at the Swiss resort of Klosters. Less than half a mile away and little more than an hour earlier, in Hyde Park, his estranged wife had presented bravery awards to those who helped to rescue a man who fell into the Serpentine while the Princess was driving past in May last year.



Grosvenor House, the site of the former home of the Dukes of Westminster, is where the founders of the trust, led by Octavia Hill, met 100 years ago to discuss providing "open-air living rooms" for the urban masses.

Prince Charles described the trust as "the envy of the world today, a model for heritage and conservation organisations everywhere". It also played a vital role in bringing tourists to Britain and he paid tribute to the thousands of members, volunteers and staff who had contributed to the success.

"How many houses would have been lost, how many miles of coastline and hillside despoiled if the trust had not existed?" the Prince asked. "Would we even be seeing the welcome influx of lottery funds into heritage projects had not the trust over its century created a favourable climate of opinion?" The role of the trust today was more important than ever with so much of the natural and built environment under threat.

One of the aims of the centenary events is to raise a further £20 million to supplement the trust's budget of about £120 million a year.

Among the fund-raising activities will be an exhibition of more than 100 contemporary works of art at Christie's, in London, opening next week.

Access to the countryside will be extended by the development of 100 new footpaths. Each of the trust's 16 regions has launched a centenary project and a national conference on the countryside will be held in Manchester in September.

As the largest landowner in Britain after the Ministry of Defence, the trust protects 590,000 acres of open countryside, 550 miles of coastline and more than 200 historic houses in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It has 2.2 million members and more than 10 million people visit its properties every year.

Sir Angus Stirling, the trust's director-general, said that conservation was not an exercise in nostalgia. "It is rather the continuous process of transferring from one generation to the next that which is held to be of lasting significance in our architectural, aesthetic and natural inheritance," he said.

Therapists concede risks in recall of sex abuse

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

PSYCHOLOGISTS clashed yesterday with parents who claim their lives have been ruined by therapists planting false memories of sexual abuse in their children's minds.

An inquiry by the British Psychological Society has defended the accuracy of most "recovered" memories obtained without inappropriate pressure on the patient. However, the society gave warning that the use of hypnosis and suggestion can lead patients to recover false memories, often involving being sexually abused as children. As a result, parents have been wrongly accused of child abuse, families have been destroyed and there have been criminal prosecutions. Psychologists yesterday warned therapists to avoid provoking false memories of traumatic childhood events.

The report says memory loss frequently occurs as a result of psychological trauma and there is ample evidence that memory may be recovered many years later with or without therapy. Some psychologists have argued that complete memory loss of a traumatic event is impossible.

The inquiry was set up in response to concern that patients were recalling episodes of sexual abuse from the distant past while under therapy, events that were vigorously denied by their families. The British False Memory Society says it has 550 cases of families claiming they have been wrongly accused.

The British Psychological Society of 800 of its members found that nine out of ten believed recovered memories were sometimes or usually "essentially accurate". However, two-thirds believed false memories were possible and one in five of those who had patients claiming recovered memories said they suspected some were false.

Professor John Morton, of the Medical Research Council's cognitive research unit, said yesterday that he hoped the report would help to avoid "the witch-hunts and the polarisation of attitudes" to recovered memory that had occurred in America.

Dismissing criticism by the British False Memory Society, which described the report was "incomplete, disappointing and badly flawed", he said: "They have their own agenda. They say recovered memory is impossible. We don't believe this is true. However, false memories can be planted and we strongly disapprove of the use of certain techniques."

Legoland empire to preserve £1m Highland estate

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Danish family that owns the Lego toy business has bought a prime sporting estate in the Scottish Highlands from the family that made its name manufacturing Whyte & Mackay whisky.

The Kirk Kristiansen family has bought the 60,000-acre Strathconon Estate in Ross and Cromarty for a price well in excess of £1 million. The Danes have pledged to conserve the estate, which is the home of golden eagles and red and black grouse. They say they have no plans for a Danish-style Legoland in Scotland, although one is being built at Windsor in the old safari park.

The family narrowly failed to acquire the £5 million Glenfeshie Estate at the foot of the Cairngorms last year and has been hunting for a suitable Scottish property.

Strathconon Estate lies 35 miles northwest of Inverness. It has a herd of 3,500 red deer, 4,000 acres of forestry, salmon-fishing beats on the River Meig and a livestock farm.

The family pledged yesterday to conserve the character of the estate, which they hope to make financially viable within a few years. The estate's workforce, including a head forester, head stalker, two ghillies and a gardener, is to be retained.

Kirkbi, the Kirk Kristiansens' property company, said: "We aim to continue to manage this estate in a traditional way, giving a high priority to conservation interests." The estate's vendors, the MacDonald-Buchanan family, have owned Strathconon Estate for three generations. Hugh MacDonald-Buchanan was advised by Ninian Saunders, partner in the Perth land agents Bidwells, to seek a private buyer to help to preserve local jobs.

The Lego Corporation was founded by Ole Kirk Kristiansen, grandfather of the present chief executive, Kjeld Kirk Christiansen. It employs 9,000 people in 27 countries. Last year 1.3 million people visited the Legoland theme park near Billund in Jutland.

☐ Robert Devereux, Richard Branson's brother-in-law and close business associate, has bought the 1,300-acre island of Shona at the mouth of Loch Moidart on the west coast of Scotland for close to its £1.3 million asking price.

The island was most recently owned by Richard and Anna Stead, who built a holiday letting business and oyster farm. It had previously been owned by the Howard de Walden family and was the holiday destination in 1920 of the children's writer J. M. Barrie.

Mr Devereux is chairman of Virgin Communications, and his wife Vanessa owns the Vanessa Devereux art gallery in London. They have three young children and are said to wish to continue to run the two-mile long wooded island in much the same way as the Steads. The island businesses include seven holiday cottages. The house has three reception rooms, a billiard room, kitchen, nine bedrooms, four bathrooms and a self-contained flat.

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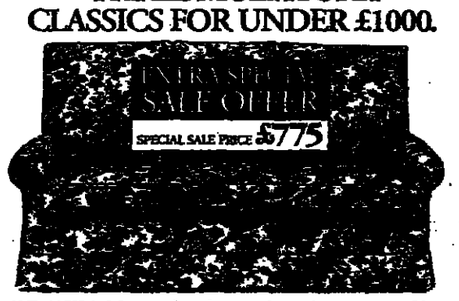
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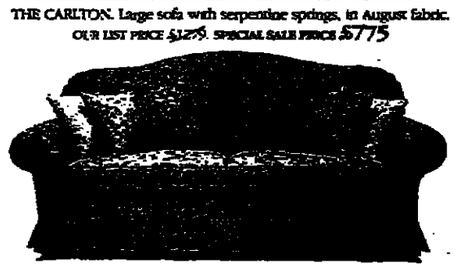


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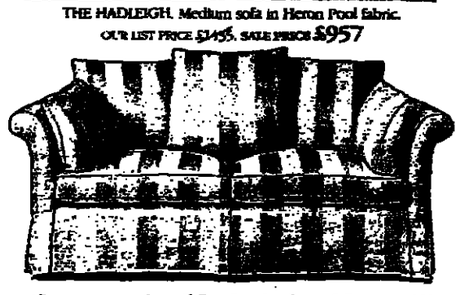
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Slander win ruined my life, says GP sued by solicitor

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A DOCTOR who has not received any of the £320,000 damages and costs he was awarded after being slandered by a colleague is being sued by his solicitor for £181,000 in fees.

Dr Malcolm Smith brought a slander action after Dr Alanah Houston, his GP partner, accused him of sexual harassment at their Northampton surgery. He says that he faces financial ruin despite his court victory. "I have not had a penny of my legal costs or damages," he said yesterday. "I wish the action for slander had not happened. It has ruined my life."

Dr Houston declared herself bankrupt in the wake of the court action and therefore unable to pay the damages. She was barred from practising as a GP and does family planning work in health clinics.

As a result Dr Smith, 39, cannot pay his own legal bills. Today he will argue at a chambers hearing in the High Court in London that his solicitor, Thomas Watts of South Kensington, should not have summary judgment against him for fees of £181,000, with interest. Mr Watts says the sum is the balance owed from a total legal bill of £270,000 for the case. Dr Smith has paid almost £90,000 after remortgaging his and his father's house, using all his savings and taking out loans.

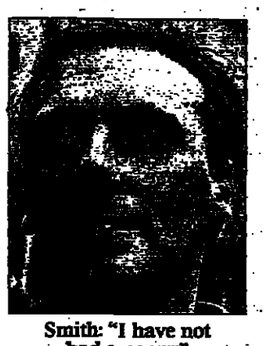
In the face of the writ from Mr Watts for the outstanding legal fees, Dr Smith has now issued his own writ against the solicitor, claiming negligence on the ground that Mr Watts did not do enough to enforce the court's judgment in favour of Dr Smith or to pursue the damages award against Dr Houston, a mother of two who now works at Milton Keynes.

"I believe Dr Houston should never have been allowed to go into bankruptcy," Dr Smith said. "If she set out to ruin me, it looks like she is going to achieve her aim."

For Dr Houston, too, the case has meant financial ruin, although she could be discharged as a bankrupt within 12 months and all debts connected with the legal action cleared. In October 1989 she accused him within earshot of patients of sexually molesting her and other female staff at their surgery in Northampton. Dr Smith sued for slander in 1991, winning £270,000 costs and record damages for slander of £150,000. That figure was cut last month to £50,000, which is still a record. Setting the new figure, Lord Justice Hirst said in the Court of Appeal that the allegations had been "undoubtedly a slander of the utmost seriousness". Dr Smith was also awarded trial costs estimated at £165,000, although the figure has not been formally agreed or "taxed" by the court.

In a similar case, Lord Aldington was awarded £1.5 million in a libel case against Count Nikolai Tolstoy in 1989 but did not receive any of the award. Count Tolstoy was declared bankrupt shortly after the court case and lodged High Court proceedings to have the award overturned. His action was struck out as "frivolous, vexatious or an abuse of the process of the court".

The system of civil justice is being reviewed by Lord Woolf, the law lord. Next week he goes to Birmingham for the latest in a series of regional visits to invite views from a range of court users.



Smith: "I have not had a penny"



Houston: declared herself bankrupt

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Roy Hanney yesterday. He was arrested at the Trafalgar Square poll tax riot in 1990

£30,000 for man beaten by police

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A VIDEO engineer who claimed he was rugby tackled during a poll tax riot and later assaulted by police accepted £30,000 in agreed damages yesterday.

Roy Hanney, 33, sued the police for false imprisonment, assault and battery and malicious prosecution on "concocted" evidence. He claimed that he was one of many people caught helplessly in the middle of "violent and arbitrary charges by police officers with shields and batons drawn" during the 1990 poll tax riot in Trafalgar Square.

The High Court was told yesterday that Mr Hanney, from Brixton, south London, had been tackled by two officers while he watched the riot and took photographs. He was grabbed around the neck and taken to a van where PC Tony Egan punched him near the mouth, temple and eye.

Raju Bhatt, solicitor for Mr Hanney, said: "While the plaintiff remained bent over . . . trying to protect his head and face, PC Egan continued to strike further blows." Mr Hanney was held at Rochester Row police station where, unknown to him, Nicola Todd, who had witnessed the incident, made a complaint about his treatment.

He stood trial at Southwark Crown Court on a charge of affray. PC Egan, PC Richard Ramsay and four other officers gave evidence, repeating false allegations. But after hearing from Ms Todd the jury sent the judge a note saying they were "unanimously convinced" of his innocence.

Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, denied liability but agreed to pay damages and substantial costs. Outside the court Mr Hanney, who is single and unemployed, criticised the Metropolitan Police's attitude: "It is a joke that the Police Commissioner refuses to accept liability. He obviously believes his officers can do what they want."

An inquiry by the Police Complaints Authority concluded that PC Egan should be "strictly admonished". He and PC Ramsay continue to serve in the force.

Last year the Metropolitan Police paid £1,050,000 in settlement of 174 cases and £84,000 in 11 cases contested in court.

Students boycott Oxbridge club

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD and Cambridge students demanded a boycott yesterday of the historic London club that bears their universities' names as part of a campaign to win equal treatment for women.

Student leaders announced plans to resist the annual membership drive of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club when it seeks recruits from this summer's graduates. The intervention opens up another front in the campaign to force the club in Pall Mall to allow women full membership.

It follows the resignation of David Butler, the political scientist, who disclosed in *The Times* on Wednesday that he was leaving the club his great-grandfather helped to found in 1817. College principals are also seeking legal advice to challenge the club's right to use the universities' crests.

Hopi Sen, president of the Oxford University Student Union, said that students would demonstrate if the club held receptions in Oxford this summer to court new members. "We are opposed to any kind of discrimination. We will keep campaigning until it changes its ways."

Anna Dixon, president of Cambridge University Student Union, said the club's refusal to change was outrageous. "It is our responsibility to educate new graduates about it and dissuade them from joining a chauvinist and elitist club."

Full membership of the club is restricted to male graduates. London members aged 32 or over pay £574 annual subscription, with those living at least 100 miles from the capital paying £430. Fees for people aged 20 or less are £183 and £137 respectively.

Women can join only as associate members, and are not permitted to use the library, main staircase or members' bar.

Leading article, page 17

Boy, 10, dies from flesh-eating bug

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A BOY aged ten has died after contracting the so-called flesh-eating bug necrotising fasciitis. Doctors believe the boy may have contracted the fatal disease after being bitten on the hand by another child.

Alan Mitchell, of Rutherglen, Strathclyde, died in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, on Sunday after a three-hour operation in which three surgeons had to remove much of his left leg and part of his abdomen in an effort to stop the rapidly spreading virus.

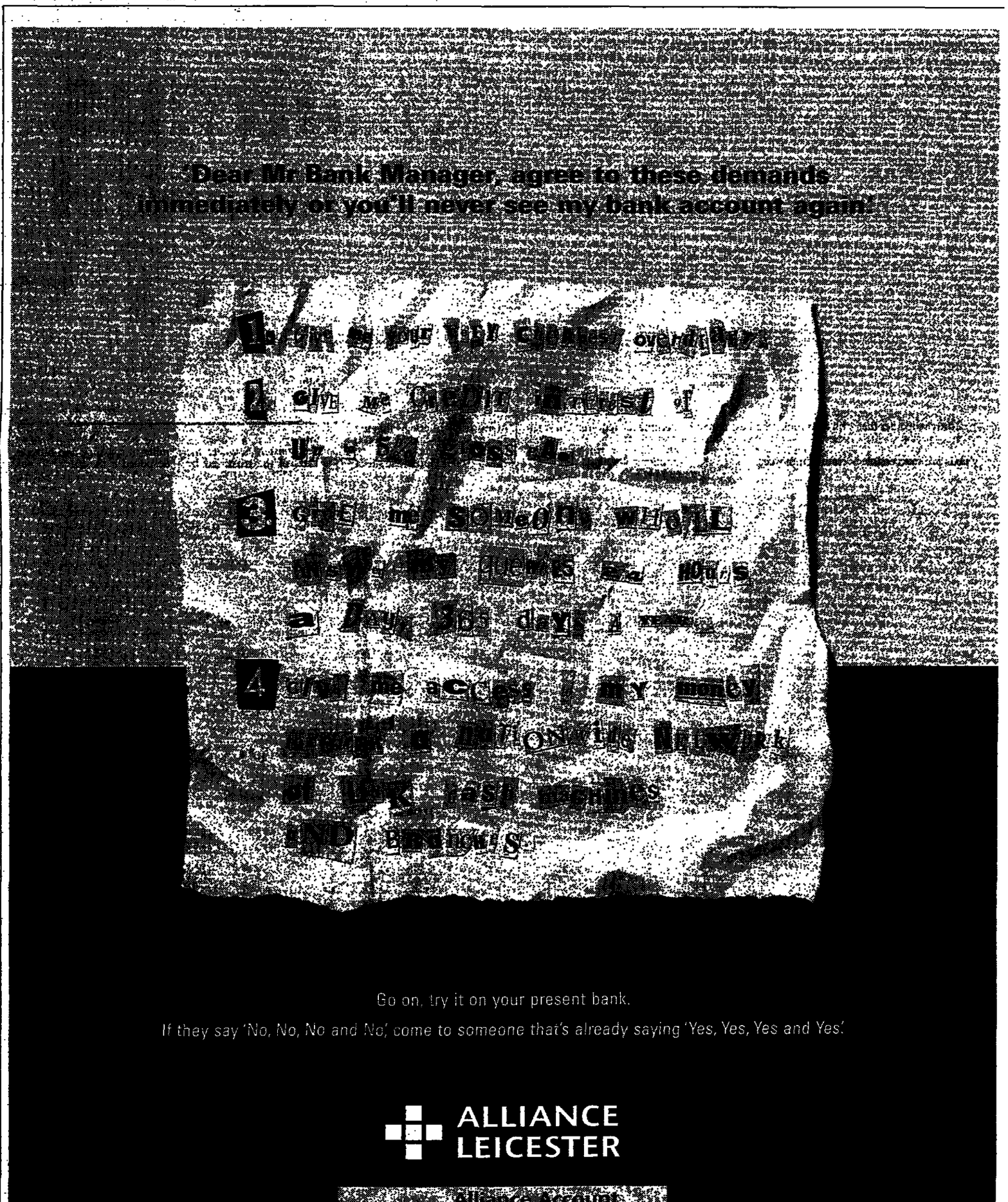
Alasdair Fyfe, consultant surgeon at the hospital, emphasised the chances of a child contracting necrotising fasciitis were extremely rare. "I have been working here for 15 years and I have not seen another case."

Dr Jo Michie, consultant bacteriologist at the hospital, said up to 20 per cent of children carried the streptococcal A bug that causes the disease, but for most it was harmless. It occasionally manifested as a sore throat and there was a possibility that Alan, who had Down's syndrome, could have contracted the disease after being bitten on the hand before Christmas by another child at the special school that he attended.

Alan was referred to the hospital by his GP because he was suffering from flu-like symptoms. He was examined on Monday, January 2, by a doctor and sent home. The following day he was no better and he was admitted to hospital, where initial tests suggested he might have some form of hepatitis.

Dr Charles Clark, medical director of the hospital, said Alan deteriorated rapidly and by Thursday his left leg was swollen and he was admitted to intensive care. Radical surgery was carried out that night.

Alan died at 6am on Sunday. Mr Fyfe said the disease had spread extensively within a matter of hours. It was impossible to tell whether Alan would have survived had he been operated on sooner.



Minister says he is hopeful of European support to outlaw calf crates

Waldegrave rejects ban on veal exports

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM WALDEGRAVE ruled out a ban on selling British calves to the Continent yesterday, but said he hoped to gain European Union support to outlaw veal crates.

At a meeting with animal welfare campaigners, the Agriculture Minister refused to support a private member's Bill to prohibit the export of calves for rearing by the veal crate method. The crates are outlawed in Britain but legal under European Union animal welfare regulations.

"There would be great confusion if the British Parliament passed a law ... which was instantly deemed to be illegal by the European Court of Justice," he said. "Anyone who acted under the British law, and ultimately the Government, would stand in danger of having damages against them."

Compassion in World Farming, which has led the public campaign against the veal trade, said it was "deeply disappointed" by the minister's response. But the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals described the meeting with Mr Waldegrave as very constructive.

The private member's Bill, sponsored by Eric Martlew, Labour MP for Carlisle, is to have a second reading in the Commons on February 3. Mr Waldegrave said he had clear legal advice that the Bill would be incompatible with the free trade rules of the Treaty of Rome, a view contested by some lobbyists who maintain that exports could be stopped to protect animal health.

Mr Waldegrave said that the only realistic option was to try to have the law on veal crates changed throughout Europe. He had hopes of support from Austria, Sweden and Finland, which joined the EU this month. "I think we can win allies for change but it will not be done overnight."

Mr Waldegrave said that Angela Browning, a junior Agriculture Minister, would tour European capitals to put Britain's case. He would also write to the European Commission. "I will say the British Government will maintain the law, but our people do not like it, the farmers do not like it and we want to get it [the veal crate method] banned."

Police reported that 11 demonstrators were arrested in Plymouth on Wednesday night after about 200 people gathered at Millbay Docks in an attempt to prevent a convoy of 14 livestock lorries bound for Cherbourg.

Phoenix Aviation, a company that flies from Coventry, was yesterday refused permission to use a Boeing 707 chartered from a Nigerian company. It had hoped to resume livestock flights to France and Holland. The Transport Department said the jet was not airworthy.

Weekend shopping, page 7
Letters, page 17



William Waldegrave after yesterday's meeting with animal welfare campaigners

Columbus events 'wasted a million'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

AN ALL-PARTY committee of MPs yesterday deplored the Merseyside Development Corporation's "mismanagement" of celebrations marking the quincentenary of Columbus's voyage to America. The events "cost the public sector and local businesses in excess of £1 million, with little evidence of any beneficial effect on inward investment".

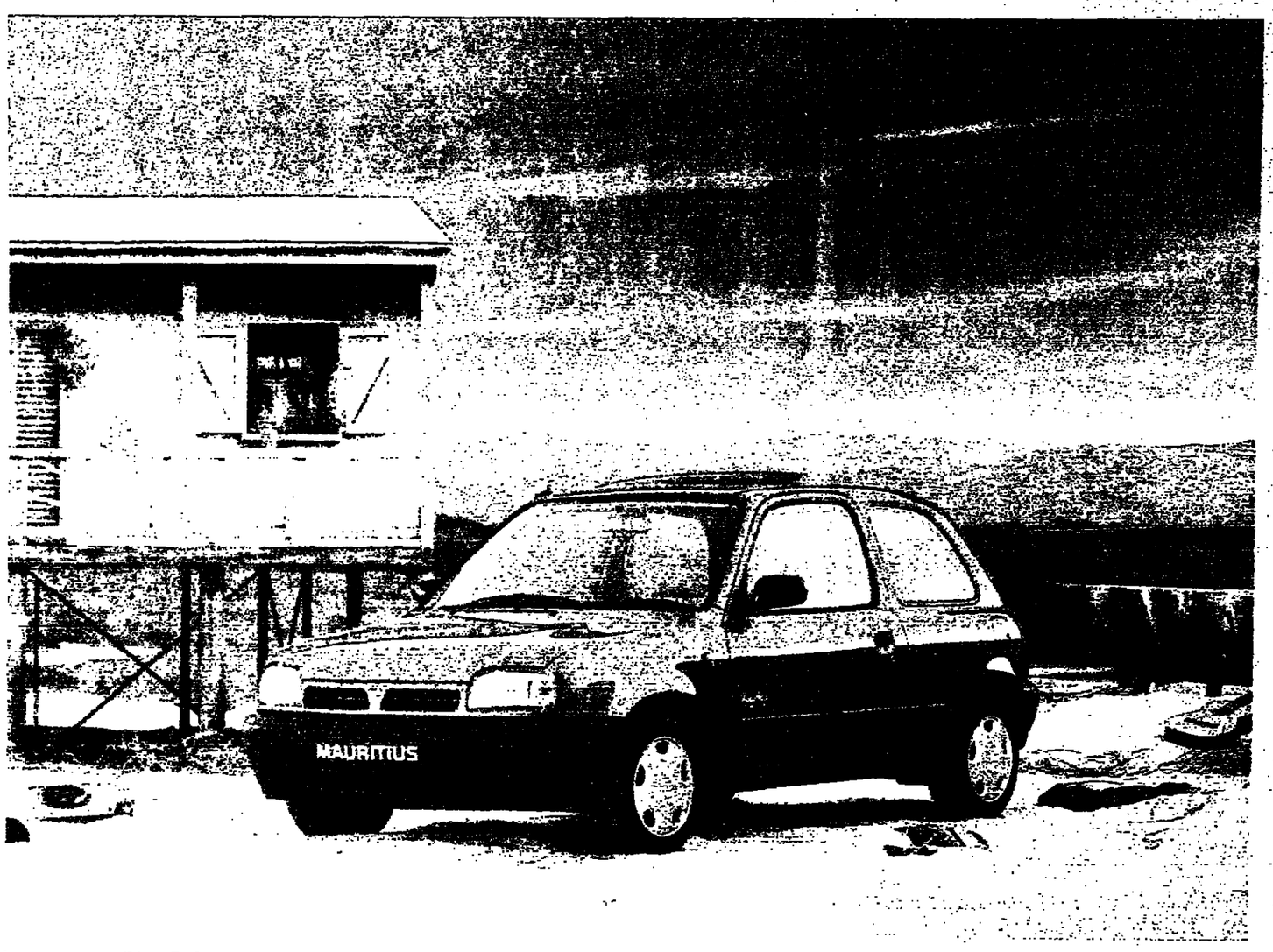
The Commons Public Accounts Committee said in a report: "These funds would have been available for regeneration in Merseyside were it not for the corporation's mismanagement of the events." The corporation played a leading role in events in 1992 to mark the visit of the Tall Ships and sponsored a concert on its land. Neither recovered their costs.

Spending on the regatta of £962,000 exceeded income by £426,000 — which meant a call on the full £250,000 contribution promised by the corporation, as well as £150,000 donated by two local authorities, Wirral and Liverpool. In April 1993, Carroll Promotions Ltd, set up to stage the concert, went into voluntary liquidation.

Literature promoting the concert described it as the "brainchild" of Sir Desmond Pitcher, part-time chairman of the corporation and current chairman of North West Water. MPs were "disturbed to note" over-runs of £61,000 on the hospitality budgets for the regatta and £67,000 on payments to Carroll Communications Ltd.

They "questioned the propriety" of the corporation's use of public money to purchase and distribute free concert tickets worth more than £100,000. The MDC did "too little, too late" in planning the events, the MPs said. "It is astonishing that the regatta events were virtually upon the corporation without them realising there would be losses". They said the Department of Environment and the corporation, set up in 1981 to regenerate the area, should "ensure that budgetary controls are in place and operating to safeguard public funds".

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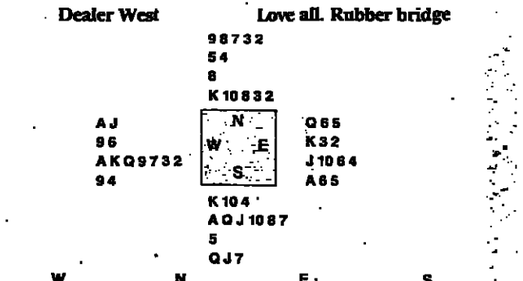
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer West — Love all. Rubber bridge



W	N	E	S
1	Pass	2NT (1)	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble (2)
Redble (3)	Pass	Pass	4 (4)
Dble	All pass		

Opening lead: A

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

(1) It is certainly correct not to support diamonds. Close between the slight underbid of 1NT and the overbid of 2NT.

(2) Extremely unwise. His idea was that after clearing hearts he was likely to get the lead in a black suit. However, East-West can easily have nine tricks on top after winning the king of hearts.

(3) A trifle greedy — he does not have much defence if South decides to take out. It led to a major disaster.

(4) Coming to his senses, and correctly predicting the agony of discarding on West's long diamond suit.

After the ace of diamonds West switched to a low heart. East mistakenly played the king — it should have been clear that South had at least a six-card suit. After drawing trumps South led the jack of clubs and when West played the nine, cunningly played the king from dummy. This managed to convince East that South had a singleton club.

He took the ace of clubs, and now he completed the performance by playing a diamond. It should have been obvious that South did not have another diamond — or else he would have taken a ruff at trick two. The result was ten tricks made, 590 to North-South. Had West passed the double of 3NT East-West would have made at least ten tricks, for plus 650.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Golombek tributes

Tributes to Harry Golombek, chess correspondent of *The Times* from 1945 to 1985, who died at the weekend are flowing in from readers of his books and newspaper articles. Christopher Stevens, of Bristol, writes: 'Of the two dozen books on my chess shelf, Harry Golombek's collection of Capablanca's best games is my favourite.

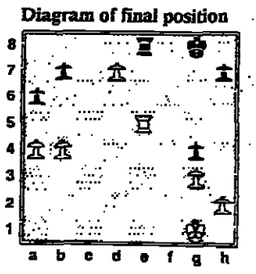
"His lucid notes, always concise and incisive, seem to reveal the essence of every idea. My own play has been vastly improved by his guidance — but even more he has given me an understanding of many exquisite games. I did not know him personally, had never met him but he has been my companion for many hours at the chessboard."

White: Golombek
Black: Fairhurst
London 1946

Slav Defence

1	d4	d5
2	c4	c6
3	e3	Nf6
4	Nf3	g6
5	Nc3	Bg7
6	Qb3	0-0
7	Bd2	e6
8	Rc1	Nbd7
9	Bd3	Nb6
10	0-0	dxc4
11	Bxc4	Nc4
12	Qxc4	Nd7
13	Rfd1	e5
14	Na4	Nb6
15	Qe2	f5
16	Nc5	e4
17	Ne1	Re8
18	b4	Qh4
19	g3	Qh3
20	f4	exf3
21	Qxf3	Nd5
22	Ng2	f4
23	Nd4	Nxf4
24	Qxf4	Bg4
25	Qf1	Qh5
26	Qc4+	Kh8
27	Re1	Rf8
28	Nd3	g5
29	Bc3	Bh3
30	Rc2	Rf3
31	Nf2	Raf8
32	Nxh3	Qxh3
33	Rg2	Qf5
34	e4	Qf6
35	Rc2	g4
36	Ba1	Rf2
37	Qd3	Rf3
38	Qe2	Qe7
39	Qc4	Re8f7
40	e5	Qf8
41	e6	Re7
42	d5	cxd5
43	Bxg7+	Qxg7
44	Qxd5	Rf6
45	Rc4	a6
46	Rf4	Rfe8
47	a4	Qc3
48	Rfe4	Rf8
49	Qd6	Qb2
50	Rf4	Rfe8
51	Rd4	Qc3
52	Qe5+	Rg7
53	Re2	Kg8
54	Rd7	Qxa5
55	Rxa5	Rxd7
56	exd7	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Harry Golombek's funeral will take place next Wednesday at 12.30pm at Chilterns Crematorium, Whielden Lane, Buckinghamshire.

Kasparov's defence

Sources close to Garry Kasparov indicate that he will defend his title in the PCA World Championship at Dortmund from September 10 to October 14.

Winning Move: page 40

صكذا من الاصل

Schools face long-term shortage of head teachers

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

PRIMARY schools are facing a long-term shortage of head teachers, according to research published today, which shows the first rise for five years in the number of vacancies for headships.

Almost 1,800 of the 19,000 primary schools changed head teacher last year, an 18 per cent increase on the year before, and the trend has accelerated in the first weeks of 1995. London schools faced the greatest difficulty, almost a third of those seeking a head having to readvertise the post in 1994.

Secondary schools, which have a smaller pool of headships commanding higher salaries, suffered a less serious decline. Thirty fewer posts were advertised and there was only one more re-advertisement.

John Howson, deputy head of Oxford Brookes University's school of education, who conducted the survey, said: "These figures contain real warning signs for the Government. Although recruitment to primary teacher training courses is healthy, teachers may be reluctant to become heads if it means managing reduced budgets and making former colleagues redundant."



Shephard: training grant for heads

The survey, now in its tenth year, showed even greater turmoil in primary schools during the 1980s, when more than 2,000 posts were changing hands each year.

But Mr Howson said: "The country cannot afford to return to the levels seen during the last economic boom, because the importance of primary schooling and the pivotal role of the head has now been recognised."

The Oxford Brookes researchers see no sign of an early reversal of the trend, however. Almost a hundred headships were advertised in *The Times Educational Supplement* in the first week of January, 5 per cent of last year's total.

Mr Howson said: "The pressure on education budgets may well lead more senior heads to take early retirement in the interests of their schools, so that the post can be filled more cheaply and redundancies avoided. This can backfire if good candidates are not prepared to take headships at the salaries offered."

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the survey confirmed the association's fears about recruitment prospects.

"Increases in stress-related ill-health retirements and excessive workloads, coupled with the removal of deputy head posts as a consequence of the underfunding of school budgets, will inevitably cause the problem indicated by the Oxford Brookes survey to worsen," he said.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, has made improvements to the quality of school leadership one of her priorities. The Headlamp Scheme, to be introduced in April, will provide a training grant of up to £2,500 for all new head teachers.

SIMON WALKER



Christopher Lee, often bracketed with Peter Cushing in horror film roles, arriving with his wife Birgit for the memorial service yesterday

Stars recall the playful gentleman of horror

ACTORS gathered yesterday to remember Peter Cushing, the gentle man of horror.

Cushing, who died from cancer last August aged 81, had doubted that anyone would attend a memorial service because he scarcely realised the deep affection in which he was held. But Kevin Francis, his friend and producer, told him: "It's free. You know these theatricals, if you're giving it away they'll come."

Many of them did go to St Paul's Church in Covent Garden to remember the star of 91 films, who was best known for his Hammer horror roles, in which he was usually cast as the sinister doctor or scientist rather than the monster. Christopher Lee, often his co-star, said: "People all over the world wanted to pay tribute when he died because he was such a wonderful man and a wonderful actor."

Donald Sinden said: "I knew him for 40 years and he was such a sweet man and a jolly fine actor. We used to play absurd games where we would make model aeroplanes and hang them from the ceiling with cotton and little parachutists attached. Then we would lie on the floor and try to shoot them down with pea-shooters."

Joanna Lumley said: "He was the most gentle man I have ever met, quite enchanting and a meticulous actor."

Richard Briers never met him but they corresponded for many years over their mutual love of Victorian theatre. "He was always the perfect gentleman but like an idiot I never went to see him. He was certainly in the First XI as an actor," he said.

Ron Moody said: "He was the kindest man. I remember him with affection and admiration. I appeared with him in *The Legend of the Werewolf*. He was the good man and I was the one with the teeth."

Mr Francis said: "He went through life with a Peter Pan quality. There were no later years with Peter because he never really grew up." Friends remembered how dinner parties at his home would include a selection of games, so much so that Waddingtons used to send him all their latest to try.

But the laughter ended for him in 1971 when his wife Helen died and his remaining years were spent waiting to be reunited with her.





Richard Briers and Joanna Lumley arriving at St Paul's, the actors' church

Cushing was best known for his horror roles but they represented only about a third of his output. He appeared in *A Chump at Oxford* in 1939 opposite Laurel and Hardy and was Sherlock Holmes in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, which also starred Christopher Lee.

Tributes were paid to Joyce and Bernard Broughton, who looked after him for many years at his home in Whitstable, Kent.

Memorial service, page 18

NEWS IN BRIEF

House fire kills couple and father

Three members of the same family died in a fire that destroyed their home early yesterday. Bob Austin, 57, his wife Mary, 60, and her father, Clarence Soar, 91, were asleep upstairs when fire broke out in a groundfloor room.

Mr Austin managed to call the fire brigade before he was overcome by the smoke and flames in the house in Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear. The cause of the fire is unknown. Neighbours made desperate attempts to save the family but were beaten back by heat and thick smoke.

Home stripped

Burglars stripped a house at Bramley, Surrey, of antique furniture, paintings and jewellery worth nearly £200,000 while the owner spent the night away. Included in the haul was a £60,000 farmyard scene by the British artist John Herring.

£25m fraud case

Three former directors of a Midlands car dealership are to appear before Loughborough magistrates on a £25 million fraud and VAT evasion charge. Their company, Swithland Group, went into receivership in 1993 after flotation plans were abandoned.

Whistle blowers

Nottingham City Council has set up a hot-line for women offended by wolf-whistles from workmen in the street. The Labour council is also encouraging the public to report bad workmanship by council contractors or cable companies.

Lottery charge

James Madel, 25, of Fulham, west London, who allegedly tried to defraud the National Lottery of £800,000 by claiming he had a winning ticket on its first draw, chose jury trial when he appeared before Bow Street magistrates. He was bailed until February 9.

One door opens

The Georgian door of a Dublin house immortalised by James Joyce as the Blooms' home in *Ulysses*, transferred from 7 Eccles Street to the Bailey pub in 1967 when the house was demolished, is to be moved again now that the pub is to be knocked down.

A doctor writes

Liverpool University is to confer an honorary doctorate on the science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke on January 26, via a satellite link to Sri Lanka, where the 77-year-old author lives. He will be shown accepting the degree and responding to the oration.

Clergyman denies assaulting pupil

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A CLERGYMAN who teaches religious education admitted to police that he had physically restrained a 12-year-old girl in his class, a court was told yesterday. But the Rev James Scott, who denies assault, insisted he had used minimum force to stop the girl hitting another pupil.

Mr Scott, 46, gave his explanation of the incident in a letter to police in answer to a charge of assaulting the pupil by striking her arm with his hand at Elgin Academy, Grampian.

Elgin Sheriff Court was told that the girl, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had a bruised arm after the incident last September. Mr Scott's letter to police, which was read to the court, said that the girl had been "striking out" at another pupil. "I used minimum force to restrain her. My left hand made contact with her right arm. She was not hurt. A pupil shouted out at me: 'You could be done for that. She can get you for that'. I said that was nonsense."

The girl told the court that Mr Scott, a full-time teacher who had worked at the school since 1979, had struck her without warning during the lesson. She had been speaking to a classmate, but had ended the conversation before she was hit, she added.

The trial was adjourned for three weeks.

Stranded seamen resort to DIY dentistry

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE people of Shetland have clubbed together to pay for a trip to the dentist for Bulgarian seamen after their ship's doctor was forced to remove a man's rotten teeth with rusty pliers.

The Fishermen's Mission in Lerwick has raised £500 to allow four Bulgarians aboard two vessels impounded off the coast of Shetland for four months to receive proper treatment.

The stranded seamen, known as Klondikers after the fish factory ships on which they serve, are surviving the bitter Shetland winter by scavanging and relying on charity. Some say they have not been paid for three years.

Christo Dimitrov, the doctor on board the *Rotalia*, which with her sister ship the *Aktinia* has been held over non-payment of debts, says that medical supplies on board will run out within days.

Seriously ill crewmen are treated in the local hospital but there has been no money for dental treatment and Dr Dimitrov was this week forced to extract the tooth of a colleague, Jordan Jordanov, with pliers, even though they were not sterilised properly.

"This man has a very strong pain and I must extract his tooth. This instrument is very old and not very good," Dr Dimitrov said, holding up a worn pair of pliers. "That is why I am afraid of infections. I am a doctor and a surgeon but I am not a dentist. It is very traumatic for me to have to make the extraction in my office." He said that he had enough anaesthetic and antibiotics to treat Mr Jordanov but his supplies would soon be gone.

The crew of the *Rotalia* were due to fly home to Bulgaria yesterday but 31 of the 50 ship's crew began a strike and are staying on board until they receive some wages.

The International Transport Federation has taken up their case with the Bulgarian owners Okeanski Ribolov. The federation has been granted power of attorney by the men and is prepared to auction the ships to pay them. However, the owners have warned the crewmen that they will have to pay for the air fares for the flights they missed yesterday as well as making their own way home to Bulgaria.

WEEEKEND SHOPPING

British veal finds renewed favour

BY ROLAND BUERK

BRITISH veal is selling well at much lower prices than the Dutch variety banned by most supermarkets. Home-produced veal medallions at Tesco are £6.49 a lb, veal schnitzel is £5.49 a lb and loin steaks £5.99 a lb. At Safeway, home-produced veal schnitzel is £8.49 a lb. Some Asda stores stock veal from RSPCA-approved suppliers at £8.60 a lb. Harrods veal escalope is £10.80 a lb. Only Marks and Spencer stocks Dutch veal escalope, at £9.59 a lb.

Easy-to-prepare grey mullet is the best fish buy. Medium sized whole fish are about £1.40 a lb. Bass is a bargain at £4 a lb for smaller fish.

Advertised best buys include: **Asda:** chicken breast fillets £2.85 a lb; beef tomatoes 59p a lb; pasta spirals 59p for 375g; Hock Jacob Demmer £1.99 for 75cl. **Budgens:** low-fat sausages 99p for 400g; 160 superior blend tea bags 88p; Del Monte cooking sauces 99p for 450g; **Co-op:** fresh chicken thighs and drumsticks £1.69 for 2lb; closed cup mushrooms 99p a lb; thick pork sausages 57p a lb; Sara Lee double chocolate meringue pie 99p.

Harrods: biltong sticks £2.10 each; honey-roast ham on the bone £1.30 for 100g; 4oz stilton jar £4.75; Serrona ham £2.95 for 100g. **Iceland:** Bowyers half-fat sausages £2.79 for 2lb; Ski diet yoghurt £1.99 for 12; 9in smoked ham and mushroom pizza £1.49. **Marks and Spencer:** Aberdeen angus rump steak £5 a lb; mini prawn layer salad £1.29; cottage pie meal £1.49.

Safeway: rump steak £2.78 a lb; Irish mild cheddar £1.19 for 400g; Granny Smith apples 29p a lb; Bavaria pilsner £2.49 for 10 x 25cl. **Sainsbury:** prime beef sirloin £4.58 a lb; Lyons apple pies 99p for 12; white seedless grapes 99p a lb; Norlander Spanish premium lager £1.99 for 6 x 25cl.

Somerfield: fresh chicken kiev £1.34 for 284g; red apples 28p a lb; Heinz Weight Watchers beef lasagne 99p for 295g; Royal Dutch lager £1.95 for 10 x 25cl. **Tesco:** pork spare rib chops 99p a lb; apricots 99p a lb; fresh whole rainbow trout £1.88 a lb; English farmhouse cheddar £2.19 a lb. **Waitrose:** farmhouse pork boneless leg roast £1.59 a lb; Seville oranges £1.15 a lb; espresso coffee £1.75 for 8oz; mature Australian cheddar £1.89 a lb.

Times £100 winners

THE ten winners of the *Times* Best Buys Christmas competition, who each receive a voucher worth £100 with the compliments of Harrods, Asda, Somerfield/Gateway, Marks and Spencer and Safeway are: Miss M Pell of Lee, southeast London; Mrs F Sharrocks of Sheffield; P Wheeldon of Stirchley, Birmingham; Mr R Harvard of Isleworth, west London; Mr B McLoughlin of Streatham, southwest London; J C Izod of Stickney, Lincolnshire; Mrs G Mallinson of Huddersfield; Mrs D Hornsby of Pinner, northwest London; Mr J Howard of Ilfracombe, Devon; and Miss B Nagda of Harrow, northwest London.

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Debate that ignites party passions but leaves the voters cold

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Anyone watching Prime Minister's questions yesterday must have wondered whether John Major and Tony Blair had wandered into a political never-never land. They — and fellow MPs — spent more than three-quarters of the 15-minute session on an issue which most voters neither know nor care about. According to recent MORI polls, the number of people mentioning a Scottish assembly as among the most important issues facing Britain today does not register nationally and is mentioned by just 1 or 2 per cent of those in Scotland — though it did matter more north of the border in the last election.

Devolution is still predominantly an issue for the political world. It has important implications but little significance for most voters in England. Yet, paradoxically, it is as much an English question as a Scottish and Welsh one. As in the late 1970s, its outcome will be determined primarily by voters and MPs in England, rather than just voters and the 110 MPs from Scotland and Wales. It was, after all, English MPs that inserted the crucial additional hurdle that 40 per cent of the whole electorate, and not just a majority of those turning out, had to vote in favour of devolution that scuppered the Government's proposals in March 1979.

The question has arisen now partly because Labour has chosen to highlight constitutional reform, but also because the Tories see an issue on which they can mount a united counter-attack. Add in the new year resolution of the media, particularly the broadcasters, to scrutinise Labour policies and you have a recipe for overkill. At Westminster yesterday, it seemed as if the clock had been turned back 20 years as a succession of Scottish MPs from all parties popped up to give their views.

The absolutist positions are the easiest to argue. Alex Salmond, the Scottish nationalist leader, will be a media star if the devolution debate ever captures the popular imagination. He was at his most fluent yesterday in attacking Tory and Labour positions and arguing for outright independence. Similarly, Mr Major has rarely been so eloquent as when he has been attacking threats to the union, as yesterday. This is even though three-quarters of the Scottish public have regularly voted for parties opposing the status quo and a similar proportion have consistently backed a change in Scotland's constitutional position in opinion polls.

The devolution case is harder to explain because it raises so many questions about relations between a Scottish parliament and Westminster. There are plenty of loose ends. The knock-on effects for England were an insurmountable obstacle in the 1970s. Labour recognises that it has to win the public debate.

Gordon Brown yesterday sought to broaden the argument by putting Labour's call for a Scottish Parliament into the context of the party's general attack on centralisation and lack of accountability. His case is that a large amount of Government is already devolved administratively, but it is not accountable to those directly affected. But Labour has still not adequately addressed the implications for Scottish MPs at Westminster of devolving legislative control over social affairs and limited tax raising powers.

Home rule all round, as it was called a century ago in the debate over Irish home rule, is not enough. There is probably a stronger demand in England for decentralisation than there was in the late 1970s, but that can be achieved by reviving local authorities rather than by creating a new regional tier.

Labour has to give much fuller answers to these questions if it is not again to be tripped up. The Tories cannot merely rest on these difficulties to claim that nothing can be done in Scotland. The political energies now being exerted in Northern Ireland will have to be applied by the Tories in Scotland.

PETER RIDDELL

Brown promises a stronger, more democratic union

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN forcefully put the case for devolution in Scotland and Wales yesterday, insisting that Labour's proposals would strengthen the union rather than weaken it.

In an effort to strengthen his party's position in an area where the Tories consider it to be most vulnerable, the Shadow Chancellor emphasised that Labour was not proposing separation, but greater regional democracy.

Labour is committed to legislation on a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly in their first year in office but the leadership feels that the argument on devolution has yet to be won. The party is also keen to highlight an area in which Labour and the Tories hold opposing views.

Mr Brown, arguing for "a new constitutional settlement" in a speech at Westminster, said that power was at present concentrated in Whitehall and unelected quangos. "People talk of a West Lothian question. The biggest question is the Whitehall question: why our constitution is over-centralised, over-secretive and over-bureaucratic and why there is not more openness and accountability."

He said that non-elected government organisations now spent £50 billion of taxpayers' money a year, a fifth of all public expenditure. This amounted to more money than the whole of elected local government. Fifty thousand Tory appointees now sat on these bodies.

"It is time to put the case for a modern constitution which enhances individual liberties without an overbearing centralised State," he said. "This is devolution from the centre to bring government closer to the people. It is not separation."

In refusing to accept devolution, John Major was out of touch with the people. "What Mr Major attacks in Europe — centralist, bureaucratic, remote, intrusive and unaccountable government — he is prepared to defend in Britain."

Scotland was a prime example of remote government in need of reform. The Scottish Office had 7,000 civil servants, covered nine departments of state, spent £12 billion a year and had distinctive legislation in key areas. Yet the Scottish Office was held to account by just one Commons question time every few weeks. "A few hours of parliamentary questioning every year."

Although he revealed few new details about Labour policy, Mr Brown denied that creating a Scottish parliament would cost the rest of Britain extra money. Spending would be allocated from the Treasury based on need. The elected body would merely take over the work of the Scottish Office and make it democratic. If the Scottish parliament wanted to spend more, it would have to justify that decision to its electors, Mr Brown said.

Under present Labour policy the parliament would be able to cut or raise taxes by 3p.

Mr Brown said there was no question of separation. "Seventy per cent of Scottish employees in industry are employed by companies based outside Scotland, and it makes no sense to cut Scotland off from its nearest neighbour, England, while seeking to be part of a bigger Europe which includes England."

There would be no duplication of defence or foreign affairs and there were no plans for different regimes of corporate tax.

Mr Brown made clear that Scottish MPs would still have the right to vote on all issues affecting the United Kingdom, and there were no plans reduce their number from the present 72.

Leading article, page 17



Salmond decries 'botched' job

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Scottish nationalists attacked Labour's plans for devolution as "full of holes and a botched job" yesterday and said that the case for independence for Scotland was now unanswerable.

Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National Party, which won nearly 37 per cent of the vote in Scotland in last year's European election, said that Labour's proposals would be rejected by the Scottish people, who were increasingly supporting demands for full independence. England, he said, would benefit from a friendly independent neighbour rather than a recalcitrant lodger.

Mr Salmond, speaking at an SNP press conference in London, gave a warning that under Labour proposals a Scottish parliament would have no powers over social security, so it could not restore benefits to 16 and 17-year-olds, no power to scrap VAT on fuel and no power over defence, so it could not banish Trident from Scottish waters. The parliament would have no access to the valuable North Sea oil and gas reserves and no direct access to key decision-making bodies in the European Union.

"I think people in that assembly will soon get frustrated at the idea of not having power on all these areas where there is a consensus in Scotland, and yet Westminster would hold the power and indeed the purse strings."

Mr Salmond said that Labour had not answered the question of why the 72 Scottish MPs should continue to play a part in forming English legislation when English MPs would have no say over Scottish affairs. He accused Labour of thinking only about the party's interests. "Ours is a policy of high principal and not low political expediency," he said.

He condemned the suggestion of setting up regional assemblies throughout Britain. "Gordon Brown is trying to sell this as a case for decentralisation but Scottish independence is not about greater decentralisation. We are not just an area, region, district or county, we are a country with a history."

Mr Salmond also criticised the Tories' stand against independence, saying: "It really just isn't tenable to continue to govern Scotland with a group of hostile MPs in Westminster dictating every area of Scottish life."

Lib Dems present Bill for Scots parliament

THE Liberal Democrats are to present a Bill for a Scottish parliament to the Commons next week (Alice Thomson writes).

The party pointed out yesterday that the Liberals had been arguing for a Scottish parliament for more than 100 years. Menzies Campbell, MP for Fife North East, said the Home Rule Scotland Bill 1995 would create a parliament of 125-175 members to be elected for a four-year term by proportional representation. The body would have revenue raising powers and legislative authority for all public policy-making relating to Scotland, except for defence and international and macro-economic affairs.

"There would be a Scottish prime minister who would appoint members of the Scots Parliament to a Scottish government," Mr Campbell said.

The Scottish Parliament would be able to raise revenue by a standard income tax of a maximum 3p in the pound but it would not have the power to change VAT or corporation tax. There would be a reduction in the number of Scottish MPs at Westminster.



Theatre tickets for a crazy 20p

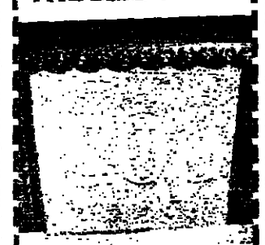
The musical *Crazy For You*, based on Gershwin's 1930's hit *Girl Crazy*, starring Tim Flavin and Helen Way won the Olivier Award for best musical in 1993. It is one of more than 150 shows in our 20p theatre ticket offer. When you buy one ticket at £30 you can receive another for just 20p. The offer is valid for Monday to Thursday evenings and Thursday and Saturday matinees until February 28.

More than 50 regional theatres are in our offer, including the Bristol Old Vic, where you can see Bernard Hill in Arthur Miller's *A View From The Bridge*. At the Royal Theatre in Northampton you can see a new stage adaptation of L.P. Hartley's *The Go Between*.

Details of 16 West End shows and 11 other London shows available in our offer were printed on Tuesday. Tomorrow we will print the first part of a list of more than 130 productions in regional theatres.

To book your 20p theatre ticket, collect the six tokens which are appearing each day until Monday. When you have all six, select your show and telephone the number given. When you buy one ticket at the listed price, you will receive a second ticket for the same performance for 20p. On Monday we will reprint the application form, plus a bonus token in case you have missed one.

THE TIMES



Theatre Tickets Token 4

The first part of a list of more than 130 productions at regional theatres will be printed tomorrow

National party seeks referendum in Wales

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

DAFYDD WIGLEY, the Plaid Cymru leader, demanded a referendum on the future of Wales yesterday.

The people of Wales, who rejected devolution by a majority of four to one in 1979, should be offered the choice of keeping the status quo, having a devolved assembly within the United Kingdom or full independence, Mr Wigley said. "The Prime Minister has acknowledged the right of the people of Northern Ireland to determine their own constitutional future and I call on him to recognise the same fundamental right for the people of Wales and Scotland."

Recent polls show that a clear majority of the Welsh population now supports increased self-government. Plaid secured its highest share of the Welsh vote in last year's European election, putting it ahead of the Tories.

Labour is in favour of an assembly with limited financial and legislative powers. The Liberal Democrats support a federal Britain with a Welsh *Senedd* in Cardiff.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons questions to Home Office ministers were followed by questions to the Prime Minister, at which there was an exchange between John Major and Tony Blair on Labour proposals for a Scottish assembly. MPs went on to give a second reading to the Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc) Bill and to debate the provision of childcare facilities at Parliament.

In the Lords, the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill started its committee stage.

TODAY: In the Commons, MPs will debate the role of the Citizen's Charter in improving public services.

The House of Lords is not sitting.

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Tank force musters for huge assault on Grozny

BY ANATOL LIEVEN, AND RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

WITH the partial Russian ceasefire now formally ended, Grozny, the Chechen capital, yesterday suffered some of its heaviest bombardments so far. Throughout the day, Russian shells and rockets burst every few seconds in and around the city centre, driving most of the remaining population back into their cellars.

Russian troops made no significant advances, but evidence is growing that another big Russian ground assault is imminent. Yesterday morning, a huge Russian column of about 100 tanks and armoured vehicles was seen moving towards Grozny on the main road from the west. It apparently then turned off to join the main Russian force attacking from the north.

An American reporter who landed with an international relief flight at Beslan, in near-by North Ossetia, now closed for ordinary civilian traffic, saw 48 Russian military transport planes arrive in four hours on Tuesday and unload troops, lorries and armoured vehicles.

Most of the Chechen-held eastern part of Grozny was deserted yesterday. Except in and near the city centre, few buildings have been damaged, giving the empty suburban streets the eerie look of a town stricken not by war but plague.

At the Minutka roundabout, one and a half miles from the Presidential Palace and the fiercest fighting, small groups of women struggled up with bags to ask for bread from the Chechen fighters. An elderly Russian woman called Lyuba Nalitova thanked them emotionally: "It is only thanks to you that we are still alive. God grant you happiness."

The bread came from an improvised storehouse in the 999 Club, a former nightclub in a cellar where the floor is now strewn with shattered strobe lights. Across the road, Chechen fighters were lighting a wood fire in the shattered ruins of another bar, its walls decorated with mosaics and polished stones. Two days ago, it was still possible to sit at the bar.

In a blunt response to the growing level of condemnation of Moscow's invasion of Chechenia, Grigori Karasin, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, accused the West of "bias" and said that loss of life was inevitable in such an operation. "We observe a reflex reaction and a return to old stereotypes in reacting to events in our country," he said.

Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, accused Moscow of going back on its word by failing to impose a ceasefire and begin talks. "The fighting has continued and there is no dialogue," he said.

In Bonn, Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said that the Kremlin deserved "massive criticism", although he reiterated that it was an "internal Russian issue".



A disabled Chechen fighter and a companion head for cover in Grozny yesterday

Bombs and refugees give mountain town taste of unwanted war

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN SHATOI

THE Chechen Government of General Dzhokhar Dudayev gave a further warning this week that, even if Grozny falls, the war against Russian conquest will continue endlessly in the form of a guerrilla struggle in the Caucasus mountains. But a visit to one mountain area revealed that most people there wanted nothing to do with such a plan.

The little town of Shatoi lies above the wooded gorge of the Argun river, with snowy peaks in the background. In the valley 150 years ago, the Caucasian Muslim forces of the Imam Shamil scored a famous victory over a much larger Russian army.

Just before my colleagues and I reached Shatoi, we emerged from the murky drizzle of the Chechen plains and foothills into clear air and brilliant sunshine. Shatoi lay above the clouds, and at times it seemed as if its people had achieved a similar detachment from the conflict and tragedy being enacted in Grozny, half a mile below and 25 miles to the north.

Dr Gaissa Salgiriyev, the chief doctor at Shatoi's hospital, said: "Most of us here don't want the war to come to the mountains. We told the Dudayev fighters who came here to go away again and take their weapons with them." Timirlan Uzuyev, the head of a research institute in Grozny, the Chechen capital, who had fled from the fighting to his original home in Shatoi, said: "We sent our mullah to Grozny to ask them not to send any armed Dudayev supporters up here, but we got no reply."

Women in the little market said that there had been scuffles and firing in the air when Chechen fighters tried to establish gun positions near the village and local people tried to drive them out.

Kamzad, a seller in the market, said: "No one here is interested in Dudayev and politics. We always thought that was Grozny's business. We are just interested in feeding ourselves and trying to feed all the refugees who have come here."

Shatoi contains about 8,000 refugees, more than its own population: it is the clearest sign that its impression of detachment from the war is illusory. Many refugees are staying with relatives. One house had 29 people in two rooms, and hundreds were packed into the school. The shops were almost empty. The refugees may be turning the tide of feeling in Shatoi about the war.



Ahmed, a trader, said that his brother's flat in Grozny had been destroyed by bombing and his family had fled to him for shelter. "Now, although I have always been a man of peace, I think I will go down myself to fight." Fifteen local volunteers had been killed defending Grozny.

The war has also come to Shatoi from the air. A few hours before we arrived, three local people had been wounded in a Russian air attack on a bridge near the town. People in the market showed us fragments of shrapnel, asking: "Why are the Russians bombing us? We have done nothing to them. If they come here, we shall have to fight them."

If so, the people of Shatoi would be fighting with their backs to the wall — the giant white barrier of the main Caucasus range, which rises above the village, with Georgia on the other side.

"This isn't Afghanistan. We have very little room to fight a guerrilla war," said Ahmed Salgiriyev, a local official. His younger neighbour, Khvazh Danayev, added: "But we will fight to the last man if we have to."

This is probably true. Many Chechens in Grozny and other areas who used to express bitter hostility to General Dudayev, and even expressed the wish that Russia would overthrow him, have joined the Chechen fighters under the influence of Russian attack and bombardment.

Stories of atrocities by Russian troops are also spreading. Many are exaggerated, but some appear true. Western correspondents have heard strong evidence of at least two cases of mass rape by Russian troops, and others of murder and looting.

If there were ever a chance of Moscow turning the mass of the Chechen population against General Dudayev, the Russian army and air force appear to be busy destroying it. As Kamzad, the market seller with no interest in politics, said: "The Russian army is forcing us to fight."

Russia's treachery, page 16

Russian roulette on the mile of death

FROM KURT SCHORK IN GROZNY

FORGET "Sniper Alley" in Sarajevo. Grozny's Avturkhanova Street, from Minutka roundabout north to the Chechen capital's shell-splintered Presidential Palace, is the most dangerous mile of road in the world. Russian jets, tanks and artillery have turned a bustling thoroughfare lined with shops, residential blocks and nineteenth-century government buildings into a killing zone of awesome devastation.

Around Minutka roundabout, most homes and flats have been abandoned. Shattered windows and façades pitted by shrapnel gape at muddy streets where flames surge and dance from broken gas mains. When the wind shifts, the rush and roar of escaping gas are easily mistaken for the sound of aircraft. Moving north on foot, one decides whether to run across the railway tracks, where Russian snipers and mortar bombs are active, or through the underpass, and risk an artillery round.

On the other side, in a world of smoke and flame, the way is littered with rubble, tree trunks, dangling trolley-bus wires and falling glass as Chechen fighters snake to and from the front line near the palace. *(Reuter)*

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Croats 'risk wider war' by barring UN troops

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations gave a warning yesterday that Croatia's decision to expel UN peacekeepers from its territory, starting at the end of March, could provoke a wider war in the Balkans.

President Tudjman formally announced that the UN presence in Croatia would be "terminated" at the end of its current mandate on March 31, and that UN troops would have to leave by the end of June. "The Croatian Government will immediately contact your special representative, Yashushi Akashi, and will discuss with him all the questions regarding the withdrawal of the UN Protection Force (Unprofor)," he wrote in a letter to Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General. "We hope it will be accomplished in a dignified, proper and efficient way until the end of the mandate or no later than three months after the expiry of the mandate."

UN officials said that the Croatian Government presented its decision as final, and noted that it had ignored diplomatic démarches from the main Western powers over the last week aimed at making it change its mind.

"It does not seem from the point of view of the Croatian Government that there is any room for change of this decision," said one high-ranking UN source.

Within minutes of receiving Prsident Tudjman's letter, Dr Boutros Ghali issued a statement warning of a resumption in fighting between the Croats and the Serbs after a three-year lull. "I am gravely concerned about the risk of renewed hostilities should UN peacekeepers be withdrawn from Croatia," he said.

One UN official said Croatia's determination to end the Unprofor presence was akin to Egypt's decision to expel UN troops from the Sinai Peninsula in 1967, which precipitated the Six-Day War.

Diplomats agreed that the departure of peacekeepers from Croatia could suck the Serb-led rump of Yugoslavia back into full-scale conflict, undermining the peace efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina and threatening the UN force there. They said that President Milosevic of Serbia would come under heavy pressure from the Yugoslav National Army to intervene on the side of the Croatian Serbs. That would force him to end the isolation of the Bosnian Serbs — a key element in the current Bosnian peace process — so he could resupply the Croatian Serbs across Bosnian Serb territory.

About 12,000 UN troops are stationed in Croatia, policing Serb-held areas in Slavonia and Krajina, which cover about a third of Croatian territory. But the peacekeepers have been unable to fulfil their mandate of disarming the rebel Serbs and restoring Croatian government authority to so-called "UN Protected Areas".

In his letter, President Tudjman said the UN presence in Croatia was "counter-productive to the peace process", and was promoting the Serb occupation of Croatian territory.

He complained that the UN force had been unable to disarm the rebel Serbs; to establish an ethnically mixed local police force; to enable refugees to return to their homes; or to ensure control of the Croatia-Bosnia border.

But he did offer to allow the UN to maintain its existing Zagreb headquarters for the peacekeeping operation in Bosnia, and to continue to use Croatian territory to supply it.

☐ **Belgrade:** UN negotiators have secured the agreement of warring parties in Bosnia to sign new accords consolidating the first 13 days of their truce during negotiations chaired by Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia. The pact should lead to the reopening of roads into Sarajevo by tomorrow.



The Pope tries on a Filipino straw hat given to him at Manila airport yesterday at the start of his five-day visit

Gunman held as thousands greet Pope in Manila

FROM ABBY TAN IN MANILA

A HUGE security cordon was thrown around the Pope when a crowd of hundreds of thousands of Filipinos turned out to give him a superstar welcome in Manila yesterday.

Looking frail, the 70-year-old pontiff walked gingerly down the steps from his chartered Alitalia aircraft at Manila airport where he was greeted by President Ramos and his wife, Amelita.

Up to 500,000 Roman Catholic Filipinos lined the six-mile route from the airport shouting "Viva Il Papa", waving yellow Vatican flags, and racing on foot after his bullet-proof "Popemobile".

About 20,000 policemen were mobilised to protect the Pope during his five-day stay in Manila, following the arrest of two foreigners said to be Muslim extremists who had allegedly plotted to attack him. Material for making bombs was discovered at the scene of the arrest.

Police also arrested a man carrying a pistol as he mingled among the crowds of well-wishers. Witnesses said the man claimed he was a member of the Presidential Security Group (PSG), a unit assigned to guard President Ramos and special guests. "The PSG guards there asked him for the password. He was not able to give the password, so they hauled him in," a police officer said. A photographer said the man appeared to have an expired PSG badge.

President Ramos, a Protestant, had declared a holiday and ordered government funds to be spent on the celebrations. The gesture brought a truce from Roman Catholic bishops, with whom he had repeatedly clashed over contraception.

In his address, the Pope touched on relations between Church and State in the Philippines. "The Church and the political community work on different levels and they are mutually independent," the pontiff said. "But they serve the same human beings. In that service, there is ample room for dialogue, co-operation, and mutual support, for the pride and glory of the nation as a beacon of peace and harmony in Asia."

Paris hits high note as city of music

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

PRESIDENT MITTERRAND was due last night to open the Cité de la Musique, the second last of the great projects he has commanded in his 14-year rule, transforming the Paris skyline more than any leader since Napoleon III.

Mahler's *Tenth Symphony* was chosen as the launch music in the 1,100-seat concert hall at the heart of the lavish complex at the Parc de la Villette, the old slaughterhouse area on the northeastern edge of the city. The 1.3 billion franc (£162 million) buildings, which took 13 years to construct, bring Paris to the forefront of the world's musical capitals.

Designed by Christian de Portzamparc, a disciple of Le Corbusier, the curving, white complex offers 634,840 sq ft of studios, libraries, a museum, café and other buildings to provide venues for music of almost every genre.

However, the opening has offered a fresh target for critics who see M Mitterrand's *grands travaux*, which range from the Louvre renovation to the great arch of La Défense, as aesthetically mediocre at best and, at 30 billion francs, a huge drain on the public purse.

Libération, the left-wing newspaper that supported M Mitterrand, said yesterday the "show-off" projects conceived in the 1980s now looked dated and ostentatious. Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, who looks almost certain to succeed M Mitterrand, was unlikely to match his ambitions, it noted.

The last of the 12 projects, the controversial four-towered French National Library, is already a fixture of the eastern Paris skyline but is not due to open until next year.

Balladur kills Bill to curb speeding

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRENCH drivers heaved a sigh of relief yesterday after the Government gave way to popular pressure and abandoned an attempt to impose stiff new penalties for speeding.

While the public cheered, safety groups denounced Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, for offering a gift to voters three months before the presidential elections.

The Government withdrew the speeding Bill, the brainchild of Bernard Bosson, the safety-conscious Minister of Transport, as it neared final parliamentary scrutiny, saying that there was no time left this session.

However, official sources said that M Balladur killed the Bill because he was worried about the anger it was provoking among the country's drivers, who are as emotionally devoted to their motoring freedom as Americans are to their right to bear arms.

Only 30 months ago, France came to a near standstill when lorry drivers blockaded roads in protest against the last Government's scheme to impose a penalty points system for driving offences.

Under the Bill, already watered down in first readings, drivers caught at very high speeds would have been subject to criminal prosecution rather than the administrative fines now in force.

Fines would have ranged up to 7,500 francs (£930), with the possibility of a prison sentence for anyone driving more than 40mph above the 80mph limit on motorways. In towns, the margin was to have been 25mph above the 40mph limit.

Behind the outcry lay the belief of many motorists that speed is a minor cause of the accidents that kill 9,000 people a year, roughly double the British rate. A government survey last year found that 30 per cent of the French think that excessive speed has nothing to do with accidents.

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Mexican dream of riches shattered by peso's collapse

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MEXICO CITY

THE Mexican Government is picking up the pieces from its worst financial crisis in more than a decade. "It's difficult to understand what has happened. One minute they told us we are a rich country, and now they say we are poor again," said Miguel Alfageme, commercial director of an American car dealership in the capital.

After several boom years, when a growing middle class bought more and more American-made cars, Señor Alfageme forecasts a 30 per cent drop in business this year. In response to the devaluation of the peso, which has fallen from three to almost six against the dollar in the past three weeks, car prices have risen 10 per cent and are expected to increase further.

The crisis of confidence in the country's economic transformation has led to panic on the stock exchange, resulting in heavy losses for investors. The fall began last month when the Government ran out of money to support the overvalued currency.

Despite modest signs of recovery after a telephone call to President Zedillo from President Clinton promising American support, the crisis has already caused economic damage. There have been knock-on effects in stock prices as far away as Chile, Argentina and Brazil. The peso's crash has also revived doubts about whether linking the vastly different economies of America and Mexico under the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) was such a good idea after all.

As the deal's first anniversary was being celebrated earlier this month, Mexico overtook Japan as the second-highest buyer of American exports after Canada. But the exports are now expected to fall sharply because the peso's devaluation will make American products more expensive. Wal-Mart, the large American "superstore" which opened recently in Mexico, has already cut back on shipments of goods into the country. Mexican exports to America will be cheaper, fuelling Nafta opponents' fears of US job losses.

Mexico was, until recently, regarded as the Rolls-Royce of emerging markets. There is still money to be made after the Government raised interest rates on treasury bills from 13 to 40 per cent to try to stop the flight of capital. But investor confidence remains low — partly because of the Government's poor handling of the crisis.

The risks of a high interest rate policy are great. Many small businesses face closure as rates increase. Mexican credit card interest rates are now as high as 70 per cent.

"If interest rates remain this high for four to six weeks we could see 30 to 40 per cent of small businesses bankrupted," said Sergio Sarmiento, an economic analyst. "If that happens, we could see very serious social unrest."

Señor Zedillo last week announced a rescue plan, including international credit of £12 billion, half of it provided by America. Mexican and US officials hope this will enable the country to pull the peso back to around 4.5 to the dollar and keep inflation in check while allowing American exports to remain competitive. The Government has also imposed a wage and price freeze, limiting most salary increases to 7 per cent as well as slashing public spending. Shoppers are already complaining that many stores are raising costs of basic items such as cooking oil, milk and sugar by as much as 25 per cent. Others complain that companies are hoarding their stocks until the Government authorises future price increases.

On Wednesday, Volkswagen, the largest manufacturer of low-cost cars in Mexico, announced that it would close its plants for a week this month, with workers being paid 50 per cent of their salaries.

President Zedillo also faces a crisis of confidence in his personal handling of the currency débâcle only weeks after taking office. Much of the blame for the collapse has been attributed to the young, US-educated technocrats — known as "*los perfumados*" (the perfumed boys) — who have risen to important positions in the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

The party has run Mexico without a break for 66 years, and there are now increasing calls for democratic reform.

Mexico's latest crisis is the result of a system that lacks accountability and the checks and balances of a democratic system, according to Carlos Fuentes, a writer and one of the country's leading intellectual lights. "In the absence of any economic hope, the Government needs to provide the people with some political hope to overcome the crisis," he said.



Israeli soldiers evacuate two Palestinian children injured in an explosion near the Kissufim checkpoint in the Gaza Strip yesterday. The children's uncle, 18, who apparently mistook the bomb for a toy, was killed when it blew up in his hands (Christopher Walker writes).

The dead boy's father said his son had found the bomb in a yellow envelope at a rubbish dump near an Israeli military camp. In the West Bank city of Hebron, a curfew was imposed yesterday after Palestinians attacked and wounded two Jewish settlers from France with axes and knives. One man received serious wounds to the head, chest and arms but the other had only slight injuries. The attack increased tension in the city as next month's first anniversary approaches of the mosque massacre in which 30 Arab worshippers were shot dead by Baruch Goldstein, a New York-born Jew who, like yesterday's victims, also came from the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba.

Letters, page 17

Palestinian man dies, children hurt by bomb mistaken for toy



Traders at Rio de Janeiro's stock exchange, where prices fell in response to Mexico's crisis

Protests force integrated school to halt HIV tests for blacks

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

ELIJAH SIDZE, 23, eyed smiling white teachers with suspicion as he waited outside the gates of the Afrikaans-language Suidhuiwels primary school near Alberton, Transvaal, to collect his two younger brothers yesterday afternoon. "To make black children take an Aids test before admitting them to a school is crazy and wrong," he said. "It was clearly racially motivated."

The school, in a mainly white area southeast of Johannesburg, has been the target of protests after it became known that black pupils were required to have HIV tests if they wished to enrol at the formerly whites-only school at the beginning of the academic year this week. Parents of many black children, fearing rejection, complied with the requirement.

The public outcry provoked by the school's application forms led yesterday to their withdrawal by the principal, who has refused to comment. He has also instructed pupils not to speak to journalists.

The case is one of 21 others of racial discrimination being investigated by the Gauteng (formerly Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging) Education Ministry as schools throughout South Africa begin their first full year under the country's now fully racially integrated education system. The Gauteng ministry has said that no discrimination will be tolerated.

A spokesman said yesterday that problems at two other schools, in Randfontein and Springs, had been resolved. The principal at Springs boys' high school apologised to Mary Metcalfe, the Education Minister, after it was revealed that his school had refused admission to blacks while still enrolling whites.

Despite several teething problems in the admissions process, indications are that the transformation in the Gauteng region and elsewhere in South Africa has been remarkably smooth so far. There are now three types of school: private, fee-paying; government-funded, mainly black schools, commonly found in the townships around big cities; and Model C schools, such as Suidhuiwels, at which parents pay a part of the fees.

Model C schools, which offer a higher standard of education and are seen by members of the ruling African National Congress as elitist, have been the focus of attention this year since their intake of blacks was formerly controlled by fees and entrance examinations. They have reported a large increase in black admissions and many had to refer pupils to the government central admissions office.

While the change in terms of black entrants to Model C schools is significant, the process has not been as far-reaching as some in the ANC would like. Robinson Ramaite, a Gauteng education spokesman, said the Government would cut aid to schools that had vacancies but refused to admit pupils whose parents could not pay fees.

With the spotlight on racial integration, the crisis in black state schools appears to have been overshadowed. At the Morris Isaacson high school in Soweto, where many classrooms are without doors or roofs, it has been an inauspicious start to the much-vaunted end of apartheid education. Many teachers did not turn up and stationery has not been delivered.

"Black education is still inferior in Soweto, and will continue to be so," said Ephraim Ntshangase, head of nearby Pimville junior school, which relies on corporate sponsorship to keep going.

Political killings return to KwaZulu

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN DURBAN

A NEW bout of political murders has taken place in KwaZulu/Natal as the African National Congress (ANC) and the Inkatha Freedom Party manoeuvre for advantage in local elections which are planned for later this year.

The parties are trying to gain the support of the *amakhosi* (tribal chiefs) and have involved King Goodwill Zwelethini in their political battle.

This week Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, president of Inkatha and Home Affairs Minister in President Mandela's national coalition Government, was elected chairman of the newly constituted House of Traditional Leaders in the province. He had earlier appeared cut off from politics in the region and isolated in Pretoria.

This week has also been marked by a political massacre in which five of the victims were children aged from five to nine. According to an Inkatha official, the family were Inkatha supporters and the assassins arrived at the family home during a wedding in a car owned by the son of a local ANC-supporting chieftain. Two weeks ago, ten people died in the same district and this week five more people were killed in a men's hostel in Durban, which a hostel residents' association blamed on Inkatha.

The ANC is planning to appeal to the Constitutional Court for a ruling that KwaZulu/Natal's House of Traditional Leaders is unlawful. The ANC resents the fact that it was established without adequate consultation, by legislation rushed through the provincial assembly by the Inkatha-dominated provincial government. It also objects to a provision which could allow the Zulu king to be dethroned by a two-thirds majority of the House. Inkatha members fear that the court will uphold the appeal simply because the judges are mainly ANC supporters.

The ANC's support for the King is in contrast to the run-up to last year's general election when he was wielded like a banner by Chief Buthelezi, anxious to demonstrate the historical ethnic unity of the Zulu nation as expressed by Inkatha, backed by the monarchy. King Goodwill appeared on platforms apparently lending support to Inkatha's political stance. After the elections, however, the King was wooed away from Inkatha by the ANC, and a dramatic cooling of relations ensued between the king and his uncle, Chief Buthelezi.

This is not new ground for the Chief, who has spent much of his career establishing a power base that rivalled that of the monarchy.

González rival seeks early poll

Madrid: José María Aznar, leader of the centre right Popular Party, the main opposition to Spain's minority Socialist Government, is preparing an early election campaign after the failure of Felipe González, the Prime Minister, to resolve a political and economic crisis (Edward Owen writes).

Señor Aznar, 41, is seizing the initiative as his rival's credibility dips to a new low. The Madrid stock exchange has fallen to its worst level since 1992 and the peseta is also at a record low. The crisis was precipitated by allegations that the Government organised a death squad to kill Eta extremists in France a decade ago.

Aid suspended

Mogadishu: Relief agencies in the Somali capital have suspended all but emergency activities after kidnappers failed to release Rudy Marq, the French aid worker seized on December 17. *(AFP)*

Carey invited

Khartoum: In a further sign of political rapprochement with Britain after a series of tit-for-tat expulsions, Sudan has invited Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, to visit the country. *(AP)*

Hot potatoes

Nicosia: A Cypriot farmer, on trial for illegal entry after trying to grow potatoes on a British base, fainted in court. A relative of Chambis Chimonis said that he collapsed out of anger. *(Reuter)*

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LONDON NW North Circular Road NW10 (800 yds. Hanger Lane Giratory System)
LONDON SE Clifton's Roundabout, South Circular Road SE9
LONDON SW Morden Road, South Wimbledon SW19
MANCHESTER 98 Cheetham Hill Road
NORTHAMPTON Bridge Street
NOTTINGHAM Huntingdon Street
READING London Road, (Nr. Royal Berks Hospital)
ROMFORD Arterial Road, Gallows Corner
ROTHERHAM Retail World, Parkgate
SOUTHAMPTON Shirley Retail Park, 231-239 Winchester Road
SWANSEA Valley Way, Llansamlet
WEST THURROCK Lakeside Retail Park
WOLVERHAMPTON Stafford Street

WORLD OF LEATHER

Seismologists' warning and storms darken outlook for America's Golden State

Experts forecast more big quakes for Los Angeles

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

JUST 12 months after an earthquake that killed 60 people and damaged thousands of buildings, the residents of Los Angeles have been told to expect worse.

Seismologists said today that the area is overdue for a series of large tremors at least as large as last year's, or maybe the long-awaited "Big One". Analysis of last year's quake shows that while the epicentre was almost directly under the town of Northridge, northwest of central Los Angeles, most of its destructive energy was felt in the thinly populated Santa Susana mountains six miles further north. There the ground movements were three times greater, enough to have brought down even modern steel-framed buildings.

Three papers in today's issue of *Science* show that Los Angeles has been enjoying an earthquake lull for 200 years, and that building codes thought to provide protection may not be tough enough.

A group of seismologists, led by James Dolan of the California Institute of Technology, studied six major faults in the Los Angeles region. From geological evidence they worked out the rate at which the faults have slipped, to determine how often each of them could be expected to cause an earthquake measuring 6.7 on the Richter scale, the same as the Northridge quake.

When all the faults are taken together, they would be expected to produce a quake of this size every 11 years. Yet in the past 195 years, only two such events have been recorded, instead of the 17 that might have been expected. This suggests, they say, that the period during which Los Angeles has been turned into a major city has coincided with a centuries-long quiescent period between clusters of such earthquakes.

Alternatively, if all the built-up strain were to be released in a single earthquake, it would have magnitude of between 7.2 and 7.6. Earthquakes of this size are predicted to occur in the region every 140 years, they conclude. The most recent was 210 years ago.

"The effects of such a large earthquake would be substantially different from the recent, moderate Northridge earthquake in several important respects," they say. "A large earthquake would cause strong ground shaking over a much larger area and would have a much longer duration. Given the potentially devastating effects such a large earthquake would have on life and property in the region, we believe that Los Angeles must consider the potential for such an event in future planning scenarios."

A second paper in *Science* shows that, bad as the Northridge quake was, it could have been much worse. Dr Thomas Heaton and Dr David Wald of the US Geological Survey in Pasadena, California, together with colleagues, show that modern steel-framed buildings are more vulnerable than expected to such quakes.

The movement of the shock up the fault lines and away from Northridge delivered a "quick jerk" to the largely unoccupied mountain region to the north. The same is true of ten other earthquakes they have studied.

They then used a computer model to study how a 20-storey steel-framed building would respond to a quake of magnitude 7.0. The results showed that it would have collapsed, even though it fully met the 1991 California building code.

The conclusion is that the seismic pulses created by earthquakes, if they happen to go through built-up areas, pose "a fundamental problem" not only for steel-frame structures but for other types of building as well. Study of 100 buildings up to 16 miles from the Northridge quake has shown numerous breaks in their steel skeletons.





A man rescues his dogs from floods in Rio Linda, California, where hundreds of people were evacuated

British star flees flash flood

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

FILM stars and homeless tent dwellers struggled yesterday against surging floodwaters and thick mud as southern California's deluge resumed after a tantalising reprieve.

Emergency crews worked round the clock to clear clogged motorways and re-open weakened bridges after Tuesday's storm, only for a new one to arrive on Wednesday night. Two more storms are forecast for the north of the state at the weekend.

Celebrities who have chosen to live in the secluded beach colonies and canyons of disaster-prone Malibu, were cut off from Hollywood, pumping out their homes or running for their lives.

Much of the exclusive promontory known as Malibu Colony, whose residents include Sting, Tom Hanks, Barbra Streisand, Pierce Brosnan (star of the next Bond film) and soap star Dick Van Dyke, was still under 3ft of water yesterday. Meanwhile shaken crew members of *Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman*, the television series starring the British actress Jane Seymour, described fleeing from a flash flood while on location at the historic Paramount Ranch in the Santa Monica mountains, where the series *M.A.S.H* was also filmed.

Seymour: second escape from floodwaters

"The creek had risen 4ft in 20 minutes," producer Tim Johnson said. "The force of water was such that a two-tonne metal mock locomotive was washed away. We heard the word 'evacuate' and wasted no time."

Two years ago Seymour had to be pulled from a Cadillac, while filming a pilot episode for the series, to escape floodwaters as the same stream burst its banks with even less warning.

Official estimates of the cost of flood damage has more than doubled to $112 million (£74.6 million) and President Clinton, who has promised federal aid to more than half the state, assured Californians: "We'll get through this, in good American style."

Three people were confirmed to have died in Tuesday's storm, including a Marine colonel on exercise and a boy, 11, who was swept down a stream.

In two exclusive oceanside retreats, Santa Barbara and Laguna Beach, the floods have ripped away beachfront walks and left entire neighbourhoods under several feet of mud. Seventeen inches of rain have fallen on the mountains above Santa Barbara so far this year, while the disgruntled owner of the flooded Marine Room restaurant in Laguna Beach, where six inches fell in two hours last week, has suggested renaming his property the Submarine Room.

Some of the sorriest victims of the deluge are residents of a mainly immigrant working-class Santa Barbara neighbourhood left homeless by flooding. They may be ineligible for state aid because of their lack of documents.

In central California farmers warned consumers to prepare for price rises because of damaged avocado, orange and strawberry crops. Further north, picnic tables and a portable outhouse were left stranded on treetops as floodwaters retreated in the resort of Guerneville.

Rain is forecast for northern California until Monday.

Capital's Mayor attacked for 'high living'

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

MARION BARRY, Washington's Mayor, was under fire for reverting to his imperial ways yesterday, ten days after being sworn in as a redeemed champion of the poor in the nearly bankrupt American capital.

Nine police officers were reassigned from their regular duties to provide round-the-clock security for Mr Barry and his wife Cora as they celebrated their first wedding anniversary in a hotel suite that costs $2,500 (£1,600) a night. The officers were in addition to Mr Barry's normal security detail of 12 who were in a nearby room.

There have been 11 murders in Washington this year and an increase in police patrols was one of many promises made during the election by Mr Barry, who portrayed himself as a reformed character. He had campaigned to win back the mayoralty after his arrest for cocaine possession, which was captured on videotape when a former girlfriend informed on him.

The police union asked if the Mayor was ignoring proposed budget cuts to form his own protection force, and residents around the Mayflower Hotel said that promises of extra foot patrols to curb crime had not been kept. In a flurry of finger-pointing, a spokeswoman for the Mayor said he was unaware that officers had been taken away from other duties to guard him. Fred Thomas, the police chief, said the same.

A Mayflower spokeswoman said the suite included four television sets which switched on automatically to different channels as soon as the front door was opened. The rate of $2,500 was sometimes negotiable, the spokeswoman said, but she declined to say how much the Barrys were charged. Mrs Barry said she paid for the treat. "It was our anniversary and we didn't have time to go out of town. We had a wonderful time. I don't apologise for that."

There may be no need to, but the occasion did indicate that Mr Barry has not lost his taste for high living, a habit that caused him trouble during his first 12 years in office.

This was the second controversy since Mr Barry was sworn in. Questions have been raised about an elaborate security fence going up around his house. After conflicting accounts about who would pay for it, a police official said the city would spend about $12,000 for the wood- and chain-link portion while Mr Barry would pay for the elaborate brick façade.

Jackson backs fair deal for minorities

BY GILES WHITTELL

THE Rev Jesse Jackson has launched an urgent counter-offensive against a campaign in California to end employment quotas and other forms of positive discrimination that favour blacks and women.

The campaign against so-called affirmative action, to be voted on in 1996, is being presented as a drive for meritocracy and a "colour-blind" society. However Mr Jackson, one of the country's leading black Democrats, said: "This is yet another attempt to roll back the process of inclusion." Before embarking on a tour of the San Francisco area he likened Pete Wilson, Governor of California, to the segregationist white governors of the 1950s and 1960s. Mr Wilson has yet to state his position on the new initiative, which calls itself the California Civil Right Initiative, and is in the process of gathering the 615,000 signatures it needs to force a State referendum next year. But he has called for an end to legal preferences for minorities.

Written by two white male academics, the Civil Rights Initiative seeks to end such absurdities as highly qualified white applicants being rejected in favour of less qualified minority applicants because of legal obligations.

"It looks like white folks are doing the best they can to keep control of the state when we live in a time when minorities are rising to power," says the Rev Zedar Broadous, president of the San Fernando Valley black civil rights group.

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Evening



Doctors treat sole survivor Erika Delgado as she arrives at a Cartagena hospital

Girl survives plane crash after falling into swamp

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

Cartagena: A nine-year-old girl survived an aircraft disaster that killed all 51 other people on board yesterday after she was apparently pushed out of the crashing jet by her mother and landed in a swamp on a pile of seaweed.

Aviation authorities said Erika Delgado's survival from the crash of the Intercontinental de Aviacion DC9 in northern Colombia was a miracle. The plane crashed minutes before it was due to land in the Caribbean resort of Cartagena on a flight from Bogotá.

Arturo Ramos, a peasant who helped rescue the girl, said he saw a huge explosion and flames. "When we got near we heard a sob so we took off our clothes and went to see what it was. It was the girl. We got her out and took her to the village."

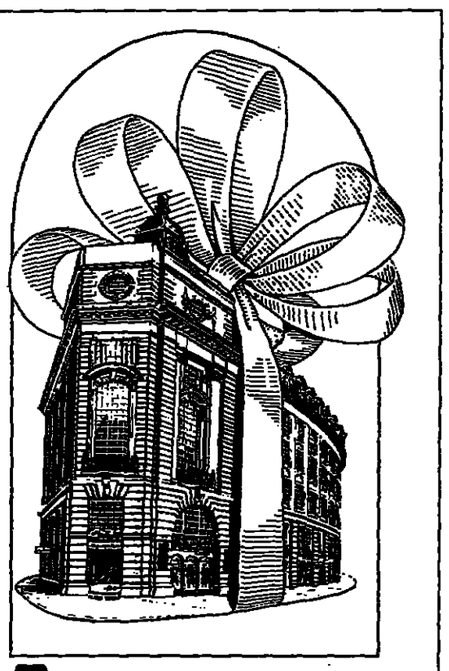
Farmers from the Maria La Baja area, about 500 miles northwest of Bogotá, said the girl told them her mother had pushed her from the plane before it burst into flames.

Mr Ramos said he found Erika on a mound of seaweed, which apparently absorbed the shock of her fall from the plane, that had plunged 14,000ft.

Ambulance workers took her to Cartagena's University Hospital, where doctors were treating her for a fractured arm and pelvis. Luis Oviedo, one of the medical team, said that she was in deep shock, but out of danger.

Witnesses said she constantly asked about the fate of her parents and young brother who were on board the doomed plane. Alvaro Raad, the Civil Aviation Authority director, said: "This really has to be considered a miracle because of the impact of the shockwaves which the plane created at the moment of the crash."

All of the dead are thought to be Colombians.



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To blurt one out on the spur of the moment can be regarded as careless, but to do so with forethought is definitely a sin

How rude is the use of rude words?



LIBBY PURVES

TWENTY to ten on a Wednesday morning: there you are, washing up the breakfast, driving to work, tidying the workbench, dozing off after a night shift. On a nearby worktop, articulate people are talking about interesting, long-wave sort of things. Your mind wanders a bit, enjoying the Radio 4 pleasure of being intellectually stimulated without having to join in.

Suddenly your radio shouts a rude word at you. You prick your ears and think "What?". It does it again. You work out who is speaking: Hah! An actor. Former comedian. Oops, he's said it again. Oh dear.

The moment passes. According to temperament you either laugh cynically, sigh deeply, shrug — or reach for the Basildon Bond. If you take this latter course, you are in a minority. I know this because the outbursts emanated from John Sessions, celebrating his 42nd birthday by lambasting one of his newspaper critics on *Midweek*, which I present. So I suppose that if anyone should have sprung upon him and clamped a wastepaper basket over his head before he did it again, it was me. There will always be those who reproach a presenter for not delivering a "reprimand" in such cases; they will always be on the phone before you can say knife.

But they are not legion. Ignore all nonsense about "jammed switchboards". As I write, out of a million listeners the tally of protest is two letters and seven calls to the Duty Office (the BBC logs every phonecall, and circulates neatly typed quotations, to the general embarrassment: the Duty Office, in my view, is a marvel of democratic access. One single listener with a telling phrase, can ruin a producer's day).

As for the letters, one asked for "assurance that we will not endure a repetition" (code for "put that man on the Oliver Reed list). The other condemns the use of "terms usually confined to the locker room or four-ale bar unfrequented by ladies". Luckily for me that chap is too gentlemanly to suggest that this particular lady was derelict in her duty.

Others will think I was. Last time we had an F-word on the programme was in the mid-1980s: one letter informed me it was my "clear duty to deliver a sharp reproof and elicit an apology".

But poor Jeremy Irons: he only said it once, then looked appalled. It would have been cruel to comment. I am relieved to say that Ian Gardhouse, senior producer of the live talk shows, takes a milder line. "It is difficult," he says mournfully. "Most presenters' instinct is to ignore it, as if someone broke wind at your dinner-table. Besides, telling them off might make them do it again".

Quite. The other problem is that you become utterly enwrapt in the job of trying to get people to reveal their nature and flourish uninhibitedly in the presence of the microphone. It is far more common for guests to be shy than obstreperous. I have to confess that I was so fascinated by John Sessions's anger, his open vulnerability and his willingness to vent childlike fury over the titterings of a minor columnist, that I missed the f-word entirely. His other words were less colourful: more sort of Booker-prize Glaswegian, really. Part of the character.

But bad language, believe me, is a hot subject in BBC radio. There was a brow-furrowing seminar about it last year. Recorded material and scripts are carefully considered, with obscenities solemnly "referred up" for clearance. When they get it, there is good reason (how else do you allow a black woman to express what it is like to face racist obscenities in the street?). Otherwise, we cherish the old Aubrey Singer ruling that "these words may pass in the heat of conversation, but I will not have people sitting down and typing them out". He was in accord with the most common criticism of bad language in the 1994 research, which was simply "there was no need for it".

Then, once a year or so, up pops an actor, bruised by some smart-alec columnist, who feels a personal need for it. And does it, loud and clear. I rang the director of the Broadcasting Standards Council, Colin Shaw, to see what he really thinks about such moments. "Given that the incidence does not leap up," he said judicially, "the message is, soldier on — but watch it. In the excitement of the moment, inappropriate language will be used. Fine. But some people turn up deliberately to shock, for publicity. For them a particular corner of hell should be reserved. It is" — I felt comfortably British as he said this — "a discourtesy".

Still, to be on the safe side, I am practising the best way to issue reprimands in the manner of a stern but kindly landlady in a four-ale bar. "Language, please, gentleman! Have you no homes to go to?"

A lifetime on the side of the angels

As the British Red Cross celebrates 125 years, **Julia Llewellyn Smith** meets its remarkable head



MICHAEL POWELL



The Countess of Limerick: her shy charm conceals a steely determination. Left, pictured with her brother, Julian Lush, dressing up to entertain the troops

If you must fall off your moped in London, do it in Grosvenor Crescent, near Victoria Station, home of the headquarters of the Red Cross. The last biker to land in a heap there found his wounds being dressed by none other than the Countess of Limerick, the Chairman of the British Red Cross Society.

It was a typical act of a woman whose grand title belies a compassionate and practical personality. Lady Limerick (she is married to the sixth Earl) does not believe in keeping back from the action.

Her CV is the densest I have ever seen, crammed into two pages of tiny type. Lady Limerick has been chairman of the British Red Cross for ten years. This is a full-time post that keeps her in the office until 9pm. She fills what time remains with the vice-presidency of the International Federation of the Red Cross, the presidency of the Health Visitor's Association and the vice-chairmanship of the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths. She is also on the board of numerous other worthy bodies.

Last year she made 12 visits to foreign branches of the Red Cross and visited another 12 in the United Kingdom. Now, sitting in her office, overlooking the rooftops of Belgravia, the Christmas cards are still on the mantelpiece and her lunchtime sandwich lies untouched at 4pm. "Life is pretty busy," she admits, with a timid, sideways glance.

It always has been. As a child, Lady Limerick, 59, and now a grandmother, lived in Egypt, Sudan, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Libya and Pakistan — following her father, Brigadier Maurice Lush, who held several important posts, adminstering territories liberated by the Allies during the Second World War.

The only time she stayed still was during the war itself, when the young Sylvia, her mother and siblings "got stuck in England", while her father remained abroad.

They were living in Surrey, where many private houses had been converted into convalescent homes, which Lady Limerick used to visit in Red Cross uniform. "I used to sing and tap-dance to amuse the troops, not that it can have amused them much." She has vivid memories of her six-year separation from her father, of doodlebugs cutting out overhead and bombs landing in the garden, all of which have heightened her understanding of the thousands of war victims she deals with today.

After the war, the family vowed never to be separated for so long again and in every holiday from boarding school Lady Limerick would undertake epic journeys by flying boat and train to join her father.

She read politics, philosophy and economics at Oxford, found a job in the Foreign Office and would probably have stayed there, had she not married, in 1961, the mad-keen mountaineer, Patrick Limerick. "He was keen to go climbing in the Himalayas and said I could come if I made myself useful. So I trained with the Red Cross to be a medical officer to the expedition."

To accompany her husband, she had to quit her job. On return, however, the fifth Lady Limerick, who happened to be head of the British Red Cross, asked her daughter-in-law to work as a volunteer. It was an inevitable invitation: during the First World War, the fourth Lady Limerick had organised Red Cross soup kitchens at Victoria. "I always say that not only did I marry my husband but the Red Cross and mountains as well," she says, giggling.

For several years, Lady Limerick worked in the tracing section, reuniting families divided by war. "It was detective work, all about using my nous," she says enthusiastically. "I would go to neighbours, shops, police, trying to track down people. There were some very lucky findings. Once I knocked on the door of a basement in North Kensington and explained that I had a message for the woman who lived there and she fell on my shoulders and laughed and cried for ten minutes. Her sister had just been released from Siberia. It was 1967 and she hadn't heard from a single member of her family since 1933."

Much as she loved the job, her young family took precedence and between 1973 and 1985, Lady Limerick had a break from the Red Cross to chair the Symposium for the Study of Infant Deaths. "I got involved in a problem that was very real and we tackled it," she says proudly. "And it had a very human side: supporting bereaved parents was a very large part of my work." She is now chairing a group to investigate allegations in the *Cook Report* that cot deaths can be caused by antimony from mattresses.

In 1985, however, she was

> 'Not only did I marry my husband, but the Red Cross as well'

asked to stand as vice-chairman of the British Red Cross. "My youngest son was 18 and, more importantly, had just passed his driving test, so I felt I could take on a very responsible role."

Responsible is an understatement: within a year Lady Limerick had been elected chairman and after five years she was re-elected for a second term, which culminates this year, with the society's 125th anniversary appeal, to be launched tomorrow.

As well as raising money, the appeal's aim is to raise the profile of the British Red Cross, so often overshadowed by the international branch.

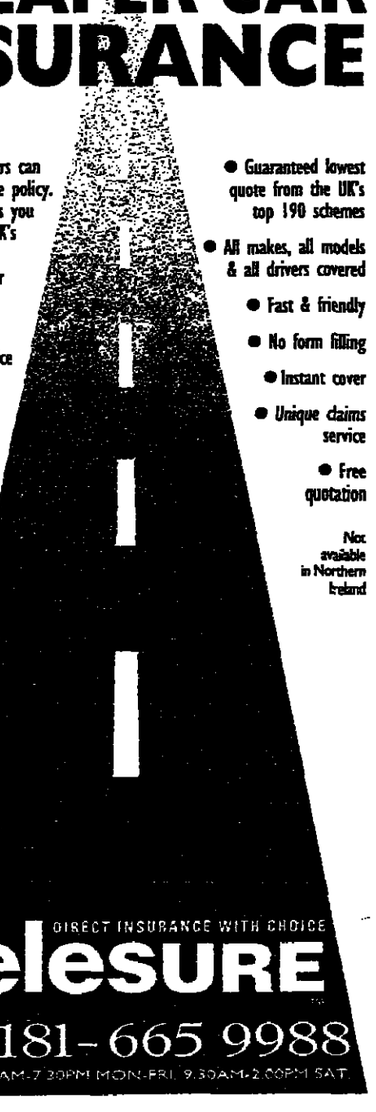
Lady Limerick hardly knows where to begin as she puts on her half-moon spectacles and surveys the mounds of paper in front of her. She describes how, during the Gulf War, members were trained to give auxiliary nursing support and how they helped the Iraqis detained in Britain. And she recalls the work done to help victims' relatives and survivors of disasters such as Lockerbie and Piper Alpha.

In the community, there are schemes to look after single people when they arrive home from hospital; beauty care for long-term patients and immediate help for the victims of fire and more and more work supporting the National Health Service in non-urgent situations.

She is a timid woman but as she rushes round the room, conscientiously checking her figures and grabbing the relevant pieces of paper, enthusiam transforms her. "This article is about the Red Cross, not about me," she keeps saying. She is too modest to see that one is inextricable from the other.

● *The 125th Birthday Appeal of the British Red Cross will be officially launched in London tomorrow. Donations can be sent to the appeal at Room 914, FREEPOST, London SW1X 7BR. Credit card donations: 071 245 1000.*

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Why Tinseltown's real stars don't go for Oscars

They're already famous, coveted and mega-rich — so why should they bother, asks **Giles Whittell**, with Hollywood's biggest bauble?

It is flood season in Hollywood again, and sure enough the deluge has hardly stopped all week — gift-wrapped videos, embossed screening invitations and presentation copies of the year's most touted screenplays, pouring into the letterboxes of filmdom's most sought-after mailing list: the 5,000 or so members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, who vote on the Oscars.

With ballot papers in the post and a month until nominations are announced, Tinseltown's trade papers are fat with $7,000 full-page colour adverts headed "For Your Consideration", paid for by studios plugging good films and bad, stars in contention and no-hopers, all fodder for the annual barrage of wildly expensive, Oscar campaign hype.

Traditionally, the main reason Hollywood has worked itself up so obediently into its pre-Oscar lather is that winning a nomination, and especially an Award (the capital Os and As are mandatory; the words are registered trademarks), puts millions of extra bums on seats and earns a healthy bonus for everyone connected with the lucky winner.

But there is at least one megastar unlikely to be nominated on St Valentine's Day, and even less likely to care. Jim Carrey, leading goofball in the current low-intensity box office hit *Dumb and Dumber*, made headlines last week when he was offered $18 million for an unspecified film to be shot sometime in 1996.

It was the largest up-front payment ever offered an actor for a role in a comedy, and he turned it down. Why was this? Does he want to take advantage of his already considerable wealth ($7 million for *Dumb and Dumber* plus at least as much in advances for the next Batman film, in which he plays the Riddler) to make sensitive, award-winning films?

Not exactly. It would be truer to say that he knows that producers will be queueing up to pay him $18 million — when he is good and ready to decide between them.

America's reigning middleweight slapstick champion has joined the elite of male superstars already earning so much that an Oscar can make very little difference to their bottom lines. The bauble itself would look nice on their mantelshelves, but the relatively serious cinematic endeavour still required to win it would probably constitute an unwarranted and expensive distraction from the business of heading up their own global cottage industries.



Jim Carrey: not so dumb

Carrey now finds himself in the company of Harrison Ford, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Mel Gibson. Ford last year turned an indifferent script based on a samey and somewhat nerdish Tom Clancy drugs thriller into the $121 million smash that was *Clear and Present Danger*. Schwarzenegger came back from the oblivion of *Last Action Hero* with a few good jokes and two Hawker Harriers in *True Lies*, which cost $120 million to make but has so far earned $146 million in America alone. Gibson, with a little help from James Garner, heaved the undeserving western *Maverick* over the crucial $100 million barrier (to $101.6 million).

The only male household names kow-towing with old-fashioned reverence to the Academy this year are Tom Hanks and John Travolta. Hanks is on course for his second Best Actor Oscar in a row, this time for playing the title role in *Forrest Gump*. Travolta is making a comeback from voice-overs by niche-marketing himself as Quentin Tarantino's first choice when casting white trash hit-men — most recently in *Pulp Fiction*.

Forrest Gump and *Pulp Fiction* are also favourites for the Oscar for Best Film. But as *Daily Variety* has pointed out, neither film stands to gain much from winning. Both are already runaway commercial hits.

The Academy need not panic yet, however. It still has the women.

Relatively underpaid and perennially short of good roles, Hollywood's leading ladies still mind desperately about the Oscars, even if Jodie Foster, hot favourite for Best Actress for her role opposite Liam Neeson in *Nell*, is the only one honest enough to admit it. ("I don't like to think about it," she told one interviewer recently. "I hate being disappointed.")

Serious actresses who want to stay on top in Hollywood without taking their clothes off need the clout to choose their own scripts. Schwarzenegger earned it with brute force. Jim Carrey stumbled on it through his unique enthusiasm for making an idiot of himself on camera. But for women, as Foster has found since winning the Best Actress Award for *The Accused* in 1988 (she now has her own production company), nothing delivers that clout like an Oscar.

Hence the scramble last month for the rights to *A Long Fatal Love Chase*, Louisa May Alcott's recently-discovered 1866 bodice-ripper. Billed as a sequel to Alcott's *Little Women*, it should prove a stable Oscar-winning platform.

The inside story of the Jackal's game of literary poker

How Amis signed up the demon king

Times and fortunes change for the author who claimed not to be interested in money



The face of the Jackal: Andrew Wylie after a week of literary deal-mongering in London

VALERIE GROVE



"The star interview is dead, as a form. The great post-modern celebrities are part of their publicity machines," wrote Martin Amis in the introduction to his *Visiting Mrs Nabokov and Other Excursions*, "and that is all you are ever going to get to write about: their publicity machines."

Dead right, Mart. Amis — who will not talk about it — has this week ditched his old agent and his old publisher, and had his next novel sold for him, for an undisclosed sum, by a literary agent named Andrew Wylie.

Like the theatrical world, the backstage literary world is often more interesting than its products, and "Amis Changes Publisher" has great themes of disloyalty and avarice, a villain known as The Jackal, a Peter Pan protagonist, at least two beautiful women, and as one literary agent remarked, "there is a lot of testosterone in this story".

The arrival in London this week of Andrew Wylie set the fax machines whirring. Quite without asking, I found agents and publishers curiously eager to proffer their views on Wylie. "The Robert Maxwell of agenting and a bore to boot," one publisher faxed me. "Deeply sinister and unpleasant." "Gives literary agency a bad name. We're all villains but some are more villainous than others. Do ask him what his hair is made of." Wylie's sin is to raid other agents' lists and to promise big bucks. Like all ogre-figures in this business, which is full of less than charming people who prosper mightily, he is probably a good deal less fascinating than the myth suggests.

By Wednesday night the deal was done, and Martin Amis apparently spent the evening playing poker with Salman Rushdie and Bill Buford in a final poker game before Buford's departure to be literary editor of *The New Yorker*. Another writer, Charles Glass, was invited to play at the last minute.

Glass, Rushdie and Buford all happen already to be Wylie clients. As is Isabel Fonseca, the American writer for whom Amis left his wife. She founded the NB column on the *TLS*, and has just delivered her manuscript of a book on gypsies. Glass this week leapt to Wylie's defence in *The Guardian*, in a piece entitled "It's best to roll with the big cats". "The unfounded abuse of Andrew Wylie is just absurd," he said. "His folly is that he wins big advances for his author. Surely that is what writers hire agents for. He has negotiated huge sums for Philip Roth and Salman Rushdie, both of whom left their agents for him, and he has also negotiated respectable, if modest, sums for writers as obscure as myself."

"He has supported me through terrible times and never abandoned me," Glass told me. "Agents today have taken over the relationship that publishers used to have — like Maxwell Perkins and Scott Fitzgerald. I don't know if Andrew Wylie plays poker, but I bet he'd be good at it."

The benefit of being hissed at like the demon king is that even normal courtesy is greeted as a pleasant surprise. Anthony Cheetham said: "To call him 'the satanic one' is nonsense. He has always treated me with courtesy and consideration." When I spoke to Wylie at Brook's Club in St James's, where he was staying, he turned me down with the utmost courtesy. He'd done the deal; he just wanted to get back home.

> It is better to generate malice than be unnoticed

Andrew Wylie long ago twigged that it is better to generate excitement and malice than be unnoticed. What does it matter to him if he is disliked and envied? He is a Boston Brahmin with a babyish face, pale-eyed, balding. His father was a gentleman publisher with Houghton Mifflin. Wylie went to Harvard, won a Latin translation prize, wore shades and rode a motorbike, and spent years on the druggy left-wing book scene, starting up small fringe publishing ventures and hanging out with beat poets and Andy Warhol.

Then he turned himself into an agent simply by cold-calling I.F. Stone and offering to handle him. In 1986 he proposed himself as the New York arm of Aitken and Stone, Britain's smoothest literary agents who represent Germaine Greer, V.S. Naipaul, and the estate of Agatha Christie.

This week's deal-mongering at Cape and at Penguin was prolonged. In an ideal world Amis would probably have been happiest to stay with Cape — an author should stay with his backlist. At that stage Pat Kavanagh was still expecting to be involved as Amis's London agent, until she received a telephone call from him, dispensing with her services. Meanwhile Cape — though offering staggeringly larger sums than they had ever had to pay him before — failed to come up with what was required.

Another possibility was a Viking/Penguin deal. But by Tuesday evening nothing had materialised. Orion hoped to make an offer, but finally, on Wednesday, Wylie and his London partner, Gillon Aitken, sat down with Stuart Proffitt and Malcolm Edwards, of HarperCollins, and John Sadler of Flamingo, the paperback arm, and the deal was struck. Proffitt says they found Wylie "brisk, businesslike, very effective. Gave straight and credible answers".

HarperCollins will now have to work on Amis to go on the campaign trail, about which Amis usually applies a steely control, allowing only unsmiling photographs that show no teeth. When *Money* came out, he did a conversation session at the ICA and gave his tetchy little spiel about journalists who, after a friendly interview, would "go home and kick you round their study". (Clive James once furnished us with the parody Martin Amis interview, starting with the interviewer approaching his door in trepidation, being shown into a study where the works of Shakespeare are left oh-so-casually open, and being relieved to discover that Amis is, after all, only *two inches* high, barely visible over the typewriter keys.)

When someone in the audience pointed out that he obviously wanted to be famous or he wouldn't bother, he replied that fame was not, actually, the aim.

"But people's interest is so volatile, so short-term, and so much is competing for their attention, you have to get fame just in order to get readers. I don't want to sell books," he said, "but I *do* want a readership."

Sharing a publishing house with his father prolongs an unshakeable filial connection. Both father and son won the Somerset Maugham award for their first novels, 20 years apart. But at first nobody was quite sure whether Martin would have had quite the notice he immediately got if he hadn't been the son of Sir Kingsley.

Did Martin Amis need something like this? Perhaps. He once told A.N. Wilson: "I'm not interested in money. My wife does all that. I could not open a letter from an accountant. Just couldn't physically do it." Times change.

The mystery is the ditching of Pat Kavanagh. Some may shrug and say that, in middle age, men do ditch their wives, publishers and agents. But the relationship with Pat and with her husband, Julian Barnes, is a long one. Julian is one of his closest friends. Pat is godmother to one of the Amis sons, and besides, had not Pat got him an offer of £460,000 from HarperCollins anyway, before Christmas? Pat Kavanagh told me yesterday: "The ironies inherent in this outcome will not be lost on any of the participants." Perhaps it is very telling that the novel will be about a writer who envies another writer's success.

> He's brisk and effective and gives straight answers

Amis is the leading novelist of this generation. He keeps a cool profile and, most cleverly of all, he has managed to retain an aura of danger. He looks out of his window on to the land of *London Fields*. He is 44, the right time in life to pull off a dramatic coup, with a book that even Pat Kavanagh still says is "unequivocally terrific". A.N. Wilson once said Martin Amis has enjoyed a career more like that of a pop star than a writer. He was once sent by *The Observer* to interview Madonna in New York. But when he arrived, she refused to see him. "She is the self-sufficient post-modern phenomenon: even her publicity gets publicity," he wrote.

So it doesn't matter, now whether *The Information* recoups its advance, which many think impossible. The tough bit will be that reviewers will ask not just whether it's good, but whether it was worth the money too — a different matter. As Amis would say: "It would be a bit much if it turned out to be good as well, wouldn't it? A bit too bloody much." Meanwhile Amis remains invisible except to his tennis and poker coteries around W2; and the hype is well under way.

Anne McElvoy sounds out Markus Stenz, a German conductor determined to bring Hindemith, a composer with a sense of humour, to London

KATIE VANDYCK



Markus Stenz: "This music can make you laugh"

A maestro with a mission

Markus Stenz is searching for adjectives to summarise British prejudices about modern German music. "Heavy-going, worthy, over-theoretical, inflexible — the same stereotypes that people have about the Germans themselves." This last insight is delivered with a squawk of laughter. "I've been based in London for four years, which is long enough to know that a German should always get the stereotypes in before the Brit does," he adds.

The 29-year-old chief conductor of the London Sinfonietta relishes his task of bringing contemporary works to a British audience, undeterred by our reputation for musical conservatism. "The British always insist that they don't like the challenge of the new, but I have worked in places where they were far more hostile." The increase in young women flocking to performances of Tippett and Schnittke may well be down to musical curiosity alone. But Markus Stenz also happens to be the best-looking man currently wielding a baton on the international circuit.

This weekend, he will conduct in the Barbican Centre's festival of Paul Hindemith's music under the promising title "The Rebel". A leading modernist who ranked beside Stravinsky, Schoenberg and Bartók at the height of his powers in the Twenties and early Thirties, Hindemith's reputation has faded fast since his death in 1963. *The New Guide to Classical Music* does its best to discourage a revival by summarising his output as "an intriguing failure, over-intellectual in concept and sometimes arid in execution".

Stenz says: "The worst possible fate has befallen him: that of being treated as an academically interesting figure rather than the exciting and varied composer he was." He hopes to help to rescue Hindemith with a rendering of his *Kammermusik*, an ironic equivalent of the Brandenburg Concertos. "One of the best things about this music is that it can make you laugh. Yes, there really was at least one funny German and that was Hindemith."

Like Stenz, the forgotten composer's reputation blossomed young. Head of the Frankfurt opera orchestra at 20, he became one of the most controversial musical figures of the period. His opera, *News of the Day*, featuring a soprano solo sung in the bath and a chorus of typewriters, was a cult hit of the Weimar Republic.

When the Nazis came to power, Goebbels wasted no time in proscribing his works as "cultural Bolshevism . . . unbearable to the Third Reich", and was particularly angered by his pastiche of the street-sounds of the gathering dictatorship, including a slightly flat marching band. He went into American exile and became professor of music theory in Yale. Subsequent works ranked as bland and his early ones have been neglected in favour of the new avant-garde which emerged after 1950.

Stenz takes a positive delight in presenting composers facing oblivion, or ones desperately fighting for our attention as listeners and concert-goers against the over-powering weight of the past. "When I am rehearsing the *Kammermusik* with its jazzy sections and its hilarious quotes of fugue technique, I know it will sound great and that people will be both surprised and elated."

Discovered by the German composer Hans-Werner Henze when he was still a student at the conservatoire in Cologne, he has matured as a conductor with extraordinary rapidity and is equally at home in the contemporary repertoire or the orchestral mainstream.

This rapid rise has given him a core of unshakeable self-confidence, bordering at times on the cocky. Conversation is peppered by statements such as (on his forthcoming *Don Giovanni* with the English National Opera): "I'll make sure that it sounds great and the music is inspired" and, "The ENO and Markus Stenz cannot be other than a very successful combination".

Fortunately, this feel-good talk is punctured by a still-boyish sense of humour. We are talking over black coffee of a strength tolerable only to Germans, in his West Hampstead flat. The rooms are sparsely adorned with jazz posters and the living-room floor is covered in scores and scattered with CD boxes. He lives alone now, after his love-affair with "a Yorkshire girl" ended. Not much more information is forthcoming on this, but he admits that his life is lived in a whirl of tours and guest appearances which discourage steady relationships.

Life as a German in London suits him well. "In fact, we get a sympathy-vote from people for having to put up with a bit of carping. But it's not so bad. I mean, Tottenham fans cheer Jürgen Klinsmann. So the prospects for Anglo-German relations can't be all bad, can they?"

● *Markus Stenz conducts Paul Hindemith's Kammermusik Nos 1-4 on Sunday in the Barbican at 5pm as part of the weekend festival of the composer's work.*

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The time of Yeltsin is gone

The Chechen campaign will be his downfall, says **Boris Pankin**

For several years, Western experts, political scientists and statesmen have been debating about the proportion of democratic and hegemonistic, liberal and autocratic tendencies in the domestic and foreign policies of President Yeltsin's administration. Guesses were made whether this or that extremist step by the leadership was strategic or tactical. But such considerations have been of little concern to the Kremlin. And if more proof is needed that the ruling regime has neither concepts, strategy, nor logical tactics but only a determination to hold power at any price, no better proof can be found than the invasion of Chechenia.

It is said that Chechenia is an integral part of Russia and Russia has the right to use all means at its disposal to keep this tiny plot of land. The first part of the formula is beyond dispute. As for the second, one could observe that this right was there for three years after the proclamation of Chechen independence. Why was it not used before? Why is it used now, and so shamefully?

Developments in and around Chechenia are but a derivative of an appeal delivered to the autonomous republics in Soviet times when Yeltsin had to score points against Gorbachev: take as much sovereignty as you can swallow.

> **The leader should serve the people, and not the other way round**

General Dzhokhar Dudayev took this exercise in rhetoric seriously. For some time, the Yeltsin team ignored this self-proclaimed independence. Only when the pressure from "patriots" of all colours became too intense was it decided to finish with Dudayev. Now Russian citizens, Chechens included, on both sides of the frontline, have to pay for the ambitions of the opposing leaders.

Initially, the West, too, neglected the problem. President Clinton's hasty statement that pacification of Chechenia was an internal affair for Russia was well publicised and struck a key note. This view was more or less repeated in London, Paris, Stockholm and Rome.

Only when the situation began to turn into a bloodbath were appeals made not to spill too much blood. But what does this mean? And who would dare say that blood spilt in a domestic conflict is different from that in a foreign clash? Is it thinner? Or colder?

Let us think logically. If today, 20 years after Moscow signed the Helsinki accord on human rights, missile and tank attacks against a state's own citizens are an internal affair of the Government, why should we confine our blame to Khrushchev, who in the period of denunciation of Stalinism, ruthlessly suppressed workers' protests in Novocherkassk? And why then were the bloody events in Tbilisi, Baku, and, for that matter, in Vilnius not regarded as an internal affair of the Gorbachev administration?

In Chechenia, hundreds and thousands of people, mainly civilians, had to be killed, living quarters, orphanages and schools had to be bombed, cars with refugees had to be smashed by tanks and hundreds of thousands had to flee for safety before Western leaders agreed with what Sergei Kovalev, the former dissident, had been saying from the very beginning of the invasion: human rights violations, death, blood and destruction should not be considered an internal affair of the country in which the slaughter is taking place.

Nevertheless, it has not yet been noticed that the domestic and foreign policy of the present Russian leadership has the same style. One should look at the present confusion with the extension of Nato. This, too, originated in Boris Yeltsin's generous statement that Russia has no objections to Poland's joining the alliance. Yeltsin was then in Warsaw and was well disposed towards Lech Walesa. But as soon as the nationalists put pressure on the President, opposition to the extension of Nato started to become official Kremlin policy, enthusiastically conducted by Andrei Kozyrev, the "liberal".

Few people know that recent aggravations of the Bosnian conflict have also been provoked in large part by the Russian President. Eager to please his colleagues, he wrote to them on the eve of the Naples summit, where he wanted to be a full participant, roughly the following: "Britain must send a clear signal to the warring sides. If they cannot or do not want to come to an agreement, we will impose a settlement on them." Thus the take-it-or-leave-it map of the partition of Bosnia was drawn up and British and French Foreign Ministers delivered an ultimatum. Eventually, it was not the Serbs who were painted into a corner but the Contact Group which had to resume negotiations. And now the Russian foreign policy-makers who started the whole mess are again best friends of the Serbs, blocking one resolution after another in the UN Security Council.

Whatever the outcome of the outrage in Chechenia will be, it is a tragedy for Russia. The politicians in Russia and outside it must reach some unpleasant conclusions. At one time, the communist regime in the Soviet Union would embrace any foreign dictator who would write on his banners the words "Socialism" or "Communism".

I believe that something similar has been happening in Western attitudes towards Yeltsin and his team. On the other hand, everyone who finds himself in opposition to Yeltsin is described as a "diehard" or "anti-reformer".

There can be no doubt that the time of Yeltsin is gone. His Bolshevik, authoritarian reflexes proved stronger than newly acquired democratic aspirations. His destiny is fulfilled.

● *The author was the last Soviet Foreign Minister and, until a few months ago, the Russian Ambassador to London.*



INEXPERIENCED OPERATOR REMOVES APPENDIX (NEWS ITEM)

Where kings are loved

Why is the British Royal Family apparently more loved in Estonia than in its own country?

SINCE I wrote about my experiences in New Zealand, I have been inundated with letters and telephone calls, almost without exception agreeing with my enthusiasm for that country. Some letters came from New Zealand itself, of course, and others from New Zealanders living or working here (also Brits working there); I particularly cherish the visitors who went there holidaying, for they were the most enthusiastic.

But in such a pile there is always one to play Scrooge, so I therefore nominate Mr L.W. Docker for the prize which his published letter won; it was oozing PC, filled with moaning about practically everything, from the man-helped beauty of the hills and forests to the things that were done to the Maoris a hundred years ago — even the disappearance of the moa bird. (I suppose he thinks I killed it.)

Bah! And not just bah!, but phooey. I saw ravishing beauty, and met splendid people, and I shall forget neither.

Now then. Something jogged my memory, and I realised that the throne of *Estonia*, offered to Prince Edward (who gently refused it) is still empty. Since then, alas, the Estonians have had something else to think about; there were many Estonians among those who died in the cold of the Baltic when the ferry *Estonia* sank.

I do not think that anyone building a ship anywhere in the world will ever name it the *Estonia*; has anyone, over the years, even thought of the possibility of calling a new-made ship the *Titanic the Second*? But think for a moment about the very existence of *Estonia*. Is it not almost incredible that it should not, a dozen times at least, have simply slipped off the map for ever? I didn't know (well, I bet Prince Edward didn't know either) that it has existed since the first century AD. For many centuries it was a satrapy of more mighty forces, but finally, in 1920, it became independent. Were there rejoicings, was the whole country — not just the children — given a day's holiday? Assuredly, flags must have flown throughout the ancient but new-born country.

It did not last: 20 years after that happy day (nearly 20 centuries to make a country, 20 years to see it destroyed). Stalin banged the table. Stalin's regular rule in these matters was applied: teachers, doctors, writers, clergymen, farmers, manufacturers — any people who could be thought of as leaders of the country — were rounded up for slaughter in the Gulag. Estonia was to be a land of Helots and nothing more.

Estonia had to tread a *via dolorosa* even worse than Stalin's. For the Second World War was now raging, and Estonia was invaded and occupied by the Nazis; three years they suffered under the jackboot, only to suffer again under communism, from the end of the war until at last the Soviet grip was broken. Estonia was a democratic country again at last, and — well, I was about to say also civilised, but of course she was civilised long before the horrors began.

I said when I started that the story of Estonia and its putative throne was touching; looking back on the horrors Estonia has gone through, the calm with which it looked for a king is touching indeed. And if it isn't touching enough, surely the words in which the Estonian invitation were couched are enough to bring tears to any who contemplate them. Addressing Prince Edward, they said:

> We would be most honoured if you would accept this rare request. Your background as an actor and television producer would be ideal to create the majesty a new king would require to combine ancient culture with modern political reality. Edward is perfect — young, royal, artistic and talented. We admire His Royal Highness Prince Edward enormously. We also admire Britain, its monarchy, democracy and culture.

And they added, for safety I presume, "Estonian newspapers are a lot nicer and more respectful to the British royal dynasty than the English media".

It was a fairy-tale, but a charming one. When thrones are rocking, few, surely, are seeking a new one; when was the last king or queen crowned, and where? Mind you, the Estonians are not giving in without a struggle: there is a party in the Estonian Parliament calling itself the Royalists, and when last heard from they were doing rather well.

Bernard Levin

I am not going to put myself up for the throne of Estonia. I am a little over the hill for such enterprises, and my growing absent-mindedness might have me ordering the whole Cabinet to be executed (what a lark!). But these events make me think of the very idea of kingship and what has become of it over the centuries. It is, of course, immensely old; the word kingship was in the language by 1325, though experts cannot agree about how it came in. But how did the thing start, and why? There must have been leaders and rulers (even if no such words existed) as soon as there were groups or tribes; the most powerful figure — presumably physically powerful — among them would be the "ruler". But how did the trappings grow? And, even more strange, how did the ruler become a god, or at least a figure appointed and protected by God, so that as late as the 17th century Charles the First could insist that he ruled by God? (That, of course, did not prevent him from having his head cut off.)

But kings have not just ruled, or not just ruled and had their heads cut off; Elizabeth at Tilbury did not need a crown (or courtiers, come to think of it) to speak those marvellous words: "I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England, too." Nor did Shakespeare need prompting with his marvellous words: "There's such divinity doth hedge a king, That treason can but peep to what it would."

But when we start on Shakespeare it is difficult to stop. For instance:

> *A substitute shines brightly as a king*
> *Until a king be by, and then his state*
> *Empties itself, as doth an inland brook*
> *Into the main of waters.*

But then, we have to take cognisance of swaggering Marlowe, when we get "Is it not passing brave to be a King, And ride in triumph through Persepolis?" Marlowe's answer was obviously "Yes", but which of us would not feel the blood stir at such words? Nevertheless, "All kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall do him service". So there is, contrary to the beliefs of some monarchs, a greater power than the king.

But at some point I must (would that I could get out of it) start discussing the condition of our own royalty. And anyone who embarks on such a discussion instantly feels a great weariness.

Where did the seesaw begin to tilt over? It is no use saying (though of course it is true) that the rot began when members of the Royal Family forgot that they could do anything they wanted to, however shocking, provided that they heeded those memorable words of Mrs Patrick Campbell. Previous royals had heeded that rule; they were no worse or better than their successors, but their successors have been doing it in the streets, and they have frightened the horses good and proper.

Why did it happen? There is no one to point to, though many think there is, and if they were doing it (and I wouldn't put it past them) just for the hell of it, the history books will say that the decline and fall of the British monarchy was engineered by their own mistake in coming down off the pedestals and nurturing creatures such as "Fergie". Anyway, I do hope that by then I shall be dead and buried.

Go back to the touching story of the Estonians and their king. We smile, of course, but it is a smile of welcome, of pleasure, of dignity and decency; Prince Edward declined the offer to mount the throne of Estonia, but he did so in a courteous and serious manner. What would you think if the message from the Baltic got garbled, and the Estonians found themselves inviting Fergie to be their monarch?

Another such thought and I shall have nightmares. Some would say that the beginning of the collapse of monarchy was signalled when the Swedish Royal Family started going about on bicycles. Hardly; but is the very idea of kingship going to die? Some say, of course, that most of the world for most of the time have had nothing to do with kings and queens and are manifestly not worse off for it. But for those nations which did have monarchs, I think they gained something, and now it seems that it is to be lost — and, of course, once lost, lost for ever. A pity.

Philip Howard



■ So let's hear three barks for bitches. They don't bite — I know, I live with at least two of them

Mothers of sons named Newt should be cautious with their animal metaphors. From Augustus Fink-Nottle, who kept newts under his bed in order to study their mating habits, to Ken Livingstone, newt-fanciers have attracted ridicule rather than admiration for their love of slimy darters and tongue-flickerers.

When Mrs Kathleen Gingrich whispered in front of television viewers that her son, Newt, called Hillary Clinton a bitch, her interviewer broke a taboo as well as entrapping an old lady unaccustomed to the media. Surprisingly, bitch remains one of the most potent insults in our world where far coarser words have passed into family television.

The connotations of the word vary with the sex of the speaker. When a man calls a woman a bitch, he may mean that she is cleverer than he is (for example, Hillary Clinton), or/and that though sexually attractive she does not appear to fancy him. A woman calling another woman a bitch is more likely to be referring to spitefulness, lack of sisterly generosity, and what is described (in an antithetical animal slur) as cattiness.

This is unfair to bitches. Since the beginning of literature the female dog has been an example to humans for faithfulness, perseverance and our natural tendency to turn round three times before lying down. Effigies on medieval tombstones represent the man lying with a lion at his feet in order to suggest his bravery and his wife with a little dog at her feet to indicate bitch-like fidelity.

The worsening of bitch into an insult came with the Puritan revolution and its horror of sex. It is concentrated in English-speaking countries. In the way of the word, bitch became an insult, while the male of the species became a shaggy compliment, as in "you gay dog".

Helen of Troy did indeed describe herself as "bitch-eyed" for Homer, suggesting the shameless way she had left home after a strange male like a bitch on heat. And early translators could turn it into English as "you bitch" with none of its later shocking connotations. In *King Lear*, which is thick with unflattering comparisons of man to other animals, Shakespeare thinks of dogs as snobs, not vicious sex maniacs. Three times he describes the way they respect the powerful and self-assured but bark at beggars. (Even newts make their entrance into *Lear*, when, in order to give credibility to his act as Poor Tom, Edgar announces his emergency menu as the wall newt and the water newt.)

By the time Captain Grose was collecting his dictionary of the vulgar tongue, he recorded that bitch was "the most offensive name that can be given to an English woman". Grose quoted a regular Billingsgate answer: "I may be a whore, but can't be a bitch."

But sonofabitch is American. Alexander Hamilton travelling in New Jersey recorded as a slang curiosity the repeated use of "son-of-a-bitch" by a landlord to his slaves. William James, Henry's brother, coined the notion of the Bitch Goddess, Success, and it was picked up by D.H. Lawrence in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

So let's hear three barks for bitches. I live with at least two of them, Heather the grandmother Jack Russell, and Poppy her granddaughter. On busy days Haggis, the daughter, Daisy, the aunt, and Snipe, the Ayrshire cousin, accompany me around Kensington Gardens before dawn. Bitches are nicer than dogs. They yap less, do not bite (at least not while they are barking) and run away less often. They have affectionate natures. After a cat, they are the best creatures to live with.

By an unfortunate accident, the bitch became an insult among Anglo-Saxons. But there are now welcome signs that she is improving her reputation. In the forthcoming *Cambridge International Dictionary of English* (Cambridge's first venture into Oxford's field), the core meaning of bitch as verb is given as "to complain". And some of the examples of bitch as insult are playful: "You bitch — you knew I wanted to keep it secret!" These examples, gathered by computer from vast databases, record the way we speak today rather than the old-fashioned way the Speaker of the House learnt to speak at college.

Cash crop?

KILTS are in a twist in rural Scotland over an application from one of the richest landowners in Britain for a large government grant to plant trees on his estate. The Duke of Atholl, who commands Britain's only private army from his 120-room castle in Perthshire, is looking for a subsidy of £400,000 to plant native pine, larch and spruce trees on his 135,000-acre estate.

The duke's application has received backing from Tayside Regional Council and will now be considered by the Forestry Commission. The area of land at Glen Bruar, near the beauty spot of the Falls of Bruar, was once glorious forest but was felled as part of the war effort.

The application has infuriated politicians. "I sometimes wonder if landed aristocracy have no sense of shame about the extent to which they seem to be willing to dig into the public purse," says SNP leader Alex Salmond. Labour's Shadow Agriculture Minister, Gavin Strang, is equally concerned: "Most people will see this as over the top. We should encourage farmers and landowners to grow trees but there should be a limit to the amount of taxpayers' money paid to wealthy individuals."

In 1992 the duke ran into trouble when he received a substantial sum to restore his 18th-century garden. A year later, he tried to stop ramblers using a 26-mile path which Perth and Kinross District Council later decreed was a public right of way. Neither he nor his army commanders were available for comment yesterday.



DIARY

● *Buzzing like a fly about one table yesterday in Christopher's, the Covent Garden restaurant, was the proprietor, Christopher Gilmour. His father, the Tory Lord Gilmour, arrived for lunch and was accorded special treatment: the best seat and a glass of bubbly on the house.*

Doctored

SIR David Puttnam, the movie director, was in nostalgic mood yesterday at a lunch in London to celebrate the film and television industry's first National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs). He personally has more doctorates than O levels. No fewer than five universities have awarded him honorary degrees in recognition of his contribution to the film industry. "I've only got four O levels, you see," he says modestly.

Gotcha!

THE LEADER of the breakaway miners' union has had trouble hitting the target recently in his favourite pastime of game shooting. Neil Greatrex told coal industry leaders this week of his inability to hit anything. A new gun didn't work; he went to the optician, but there was nothing wrong with his eyes.

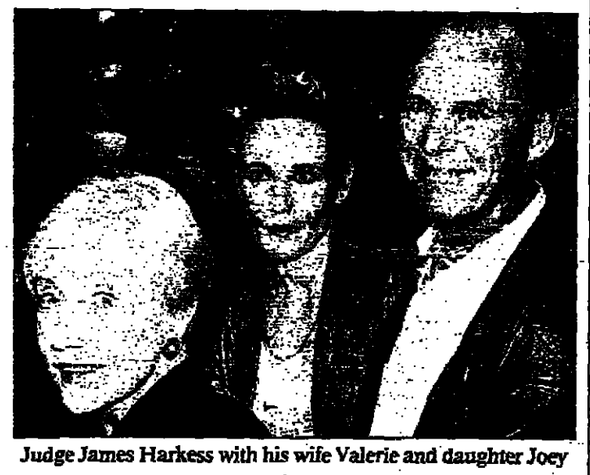
Following the Energy Minister's rejection of the UDM's joint bid for deep mines in England, however, Greatrex came up with a wizard new idea: "When I next shot, I called the bird 'Tim Eggar' — and hit it first time."

Round Two

THE JUDGE so famously cuckolded by the snobbish diarist Alan Clark has returned to the fray. He has written a scorcher of a letter to this week's *Spectator* which suggests that Clark has lost "his marbles".

Judge Harkess's vitriol was prompted originally by Clark's suggestion in his diaries that he had enjoyed the company of his wife and his daughter. It has been rekindled by Clark's review in *The Spectator* of Ginny Dougary's book, *The Executive Tart*.

"I was at first confused ... in thinking that *The Executive Tart* might refer to himself," writes Harkess. "Mr and Mrs Clark have a well-known propensity to denigrate women." Clark was unimpressed when I spoke to him yesterday. "I don't think I do want to hear it, thank you".



Judge James Harkess with his wife Valerie and daughter Joey

● *One of the high-fliers of the young Tory generation has defected with Maurice Saatchi from the Conservative Party's advertising agency. Steve Hilton, 25, who played a key part in the victorious 1992 election campaign from Central Office and then joined the agency, is to join Maurice Saatchi's new outfit.*

P·H·S

SCOTLAND IS DIFFERENT

Labour need not propose regional assemblies

Labour did little yesterday to show that the debate on Britain's constitution was safe in its hands. Gordon Brown's speech on devolution was well overshadowed by attacks from John Redwood and Ian Lang. The Opposition looked particularly weak on the question of income taxation, the levels of which the proposed Scottish Parliament could not only raise but reduce. On this point and many others, ministers are right to challenge their Labour counterparts.

The Conservative leadership seems to calculate that the unionist vote in Scotland exceeds the natural Conservative vote; and that therefore it is in its electoral interests to continue an unremitting assault on any change at all. Yet the High Tory defence of the status quo offered by ministers has its own clear limitations. There is a strong sense, no little fostered by the Prime Minister himself, that changes in British governance can be made. The Opposition is letting the Government off the hook by muddling its own priorities and message.

Labour's relationship with the principle of Scottish devolution has often been a nervous one. Its Royal Commission on the Constitution recommended a Scottish assembly in 1973 — five years after Edward Heath committed the Conservative Party to the same. But many in Labour's ranks continued to argue that devolution was — by definition — hostile to centralised socialism.

As Mr Brown made clear in his speech, today's new "social-ists" have a far stronger commitment to decentralisation and to the reinforcement of local identity. Yet many in the party continue to pose Tam Dalyell's "West Lothian" question: why should a Scottish MP at Westminster be denied the chance to vote on certain issues affecting his own constituency while his English colleagues continue to address the full range of policy questions?

The Shadow Chancellor's answer was that of the constitutional rationalist who believes that policy dilemmas are resolved by blueprint. The West Lothian question is no barrier to change, he said, "because a Scottish Parliament and an assembly for Wales go hand in hand with the offer of greater regional democracy throughout Britain".

The transference of certain powers from Scottish MPs to the new Scottish assembly, in other words, will be matched in other parts of Britain by a similar transference from Westminster to, say, a Yorkshire senate or an Avon parliament. The West Lothian question would be answered by the prospect of uniform arrangements for the whole of the nation, as different regions opted for the new form of representation.

There are two obvious objections to Mr Brown's approach. The first is that his vision of regional assemblies is unrealistic. To say that these new bodies would "not take power from local communities", for instance, is to underestimate the self-aggrandising instincts of new representative bodies. The assemblies would almost certainly strip town halls of some of their responsibilities. They would also generate their own forms of bureaucracy, in spite of Mr Brown's assurances. If Labour intends to persist with this reform, it must do so with open eyes.

Secondly, the plan for regional assemblies is misconceived because it is unnecessary. A Scottish Parliament would indeed be an anomaly — but only because Scotland is a special case requiring anomalous solutions. That much is implicit in the existence of Scottish law, the Scottish Office and the Church of Scotland.

There are serious arguments against a tax-raising (or tax-reducing) parliament for Scotland: there are even greater arguments arising from how England would react. But appropriateness in successful constitutional reform is more important than rationalism or strict notions of parity between regions. One simple point which Labour must grasp is that if Scotland probably does want devolution England probably does not.

NOTRE NEIL

Kinnock's task in Brussels

Slipping effortlessly into the ways and language of Brussels, Neil Kinnock has made an impressive start as the European Union's new Commissioner for Transport. At his confirmation hearings he laid out a sensible programme of work appropriate to a Union stretching from Lapland to Cadiz. More importantly, he brought the professionalism of the Westminster politician to the artificial contrivance of formal examination by MEPs.

He flattered their self-importance, quoted their reports and studies and professed his readiness to be guided. His repartee, admittedly, did not survive translation into a Babel of languages. But he covered everything with a mellifluous *communautaire* gloss aimed as much at new colleagues in the Santer Commission as former colleagues in the Labour Party. Mr Kinnock, at least, knows the value of well-chosen words.

His summary of his priorities for EU action is of greater significance. And here Mr Kinnock's words were a useful pointer. Transport is one of the few jobs in Brussels with a clearly defined remit and where Union-wide policymaking is not only legitimate but essential.

The liberalisation of air transport could not have happened without firm directives to force protectionist southern countries with bankrupt state airlines to open their skies. The new rules are now in place; but now they must be enforced.

France, Spain and Greece are still balking at full commercial competition in aviation. France has attempted to keep foreign airlines out of Orly; Air France and Iberia are demanding massive government aid to rescue them from commercial disaster. Mr Kinnock has already indicated that he will take a tough line in refusing any such special treatment, and appears ready with Karel Van Miert, his competition colleague, to keep up the pressure — a surprising and encouraging stance by two socialist Commissioners.

Another issue highlighted by Mr Kinnock where the public certainly expects prompt action is ferry safety. The lessons of the *Estonia* have still not been fully understood by some operators, whose precarious commercial future reinforces complacency; safety, as Mr Kinnock insisted, must be the paramount consideration. His promise of specific proposals for action during 1996 is welcome.

Inevitably he will also be drawn into the row over the transport of live animals, and here Mr Kinnock must demostrate tact as well as principle. Encouraging trans-European rail networks is also a good use of the commissioner's time — though only governments themselves can take the necessary steps to co-ordinate and upgrade their railways.

More than any specific policies, European transport will be improved only by an approach that goes with the market rather than with notions of *dirigisme*. Mr Kinnock was refreshingly silent on visionary ideology or regulatory intervention. Leaving his country with one of John Major's policies in his pocket, he put forward a "Citizen's Network".

Encouraging this kind of consumer-based initiative, rather than attempting to regulate transport from Brussels, is how Europe's road, rail, air and waterway systems may be co-ordinated in a single transport market. The new Commissioner is already travelling in the right direction.

FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

If you can't join 'em, beat 'em

Had Groucho Marx been a woman, it is unlikely that he would have had opportunity to quip about not wanting to join any club that would have him as a member. David Butler, veteran Nuffield don and psephologist — increasingly better-known as the husband of the Rector of Exeter College, Oxford — has now changed the predicament into a higher gear: he does not want to be a member of a club that would have him as a member but not his wife.

In an open letter to the chairman of the United Oxford and Cambridge Universities Club, which was published in *The Times* on Wednesday, Dr Butler wrote that "in 1995 it no longer seems civilised to remain a member of an institution in which the responsible general committee seems determined to retain every existing barrier to the treatment of women". The Oxford and Cambridge excludes women from full membership, as it has done consistently since its foundation in 1817.

Women are instead offered associate membership, a stingy form of consociation which does not even secure for them access to the club's library. In spite of growing pressure to extend to women the same membership rights that are available to men, the committee remains determined that there should be no oestrogen in the library — perhaps it is bad for the books? It is this blimpish position to which Dr Butler objects, and which has compelled him to send in his firm letter of resignation.

Dr Butler is right, and has performed a public service by putting such distance between himself and the club. If there is any club in this country which must extend full membership to women, it is the Oxford and Cambridge. More than 40 per cent of matriculating undergraduates are women; the number of female dons in both places, while still unacceptably low, grows apace. It is wrong — and "silly", as Dr Butler says — that women who research in the Bodleian and the Cambridge University Library cannot, as it were, set foot in the library of the Oxford and Cambridge.

There are signs that other dons will soon resign as well, and this newspaper would applaud them if they were to do so. Both the Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors of the two universities should waste no time in writing to the chairman of the Oxford and Cambridge to express their displeasure with the rules of the club; after all, it does bear the names of the two universities. Yet while it may be difficult for the universities to insist, as a matter of law, that the club change its rules, there is no question that a public scolding would bring upon the club a serious humiliation. In the meantime, to those members who have read this leading article, our message is a simple one. Vote with your feet.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Steps to a Tory accord on Europe

From Mr Robert Walter

Sir, The key phrase in the Prime Minister's *Frost on Sunday* interview (report, January 9) was "I will not accept constitutional change which impacts on the British Parliament".

To Euro-sceptics this will be interpreted as "thus far and no further"; those of us who take a more positive view of Britain's European role will regard it as "no turning back". Either way, if Britain is to play a constructive role at the 1996 inter-governmental conference (IGC) we must address what I regard as a crucial issue: the lack of democratic accountability of our common institutions.

I believe that there is a direct relationship between this democratic failure and the growing popular disillusionment with the powers of the European institutions. The British people have elected representatives at Westminster and Strasbourg. Both parliaments have a mandate from the people; but neither has the constitutional authority to check the powers of the European Council and the European Commission.

Unless the IGC confronts this issue, it will fail the people of Europe. Maastricht made small steps in this direction; but the enactment of European legislation and the implementation of those policies by a secretive cabal of ministers, national civil servants and European commissioners can no longer be tolerated.

A bold IGC will enhance the ability of both the national *and* the European parliaments to represent their electorates.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WALTER (Chairman),
Conservative Group for Europe,
110 Grosvenor Road, SW1.
January 9.

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East (Conservative)

Sir, I welcome the Prime Minister's assertion that a referendum on key European issues is both unlikely and unnecessary as a wise attempt to steady frayed nerves. It is far too easy to view the referendum notion as an easy way, relatively, to secure peace and unity — and not just in the Conservative Party.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The 1975 Labour referendum (albeit only two years into our membership of the EC) seemed at first like a unifying solution; but later it led to a fundamental split in the party, and the rise of the SDP, which kept Labour out of office for years. Glib talk among the Tories of similar "solutions" now holds the same menace for them, too.

The fanatical anti-Europe handful of MPs in both main parties never accept any pro-EC referendum result. They just carry on regardless with their dotty out-of-date campaigns, designed to scare the public.

I remain, yours faithfully,
HUGH DYKES (Chairman),
European Movement, UK,
1 Parliament Street, Whitehall, SW1.
January 9.

Benefits from taxation

From Lord Boardman

Sir, Your third leader, "Happy May 29th" (January 3), refers to the number of days it takes the average worker to earn the tax that he has to pay. It is a disturbing figure but it would be more constructive if it were translated into the days' work needed for each major item of public expenditure that such taxes have to cover.

If it showed, for example, that it needed X days' work for social services, Y days for defence, Z days for unmarried mothers and so on, there might be a greater understanding of public expenditure and more concern about those areas which do not appear to justify the "extra work for the Revenue".

Instead of a public outcry about "cuts" there could be public applause for many of these.

Yours faithfully,
BOARDMAN,
House of Lords.
January 3.

From Dr Tim Erasmus

Sir, I take it that your leading article on the number of (hypothetical) days we Britons work for the Inland Revenue before we can keep our income was written tongue-in-cheek. But there is a serious point.

The article claims that taxation is money "confiscated by politicians". Well, hardly. Without taxation our society would slip further into decay; without taxation there would be no hospitals, schools, roads, sewers and so on.

Thank goodness politicians (in the past) had the courage to increase taxation in order to create institutions and services that most recognise as marks of civilisation. In fact it would do the Government no harm if it were to publicise the benefits that arise from taxation. Give the Inland Revenue a positive image — why not?

Where your leader extols "tax freedom", I tend to believe that taxation and government expenditure deliver us from the dark ages.

Yours,
TIM ERASMUS,
Esmor Cottage,
South Street, Caerwys, Clwyd.

Business letters, page 25

Outrage over the export of calves

From Mr Philip Manasseh

Sir, The letter which you published on January 10 from the Director of the Hannah Research Institute suggests that a solution to the veal calf export problem may soon be possible: that is to breed cows which will produce milk continually without the need to calve annually.

I find this quite disturbing. We already expect enough from these goodnatured servants of ours. For instance, there was a recent move to add to their burden by means of hormone treatment — something farmers objected to in the main.

No, the answer lies at home — unless the Europeans are persuaded that our methods are preferable. The RSPCA has recently instigated the "Freedom Foods" campaign, promoting a farming management system based on their perception of animal needs. They now have an opportunity to demonstrate their philosophy by funding calf-rearing units and promoting British veal humanely produced. There will never be a better opportunity for them than in the present climate.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP MANASSEH
(Oxfordshire Agricultural Education Adviser, 1989-91),
Corner Cottage, Combe, Oxfordshire.
January 11.

From Mr J. A. Davis

Sir, If MPs wish to do something practical to alleviate the lot of exported live animals, and not simply to indulge in ineffectual populism, they should take the opportunity to extend the jurisdiction of our criminal courts to cover offences against the relevant EC directives committed abroad by UK subjects. This would at least improve the lot of sheep transported to slaughterhouses in Italy and Spain through countries where EC law relating to animal welfare seems to be largely unenforced.

It would admittedly do nothing for calves destined to be reared in barbaric conditions in Holland; but, so long as we remain in the Community, it does not lie within the power of the Mother of Parliaments to do this.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. DAVIS,
54 Woodlands Road,
Bookham, Surrey.

From Mr Graham Platt

Sir, Regulations regarding the transport of live animals are certainly not respected in France. Last year I appeared for an Irish livestock exporter in the Calais *Tribunal d'Instance*. He was sued for freight charges, which he had refused to pay, by a French transport company that had taken 400 of his lambs via Rosslare/Le Havre to Toulouse.

After a journey which lasted 72 hours the animals were delivered in a deplorable state. Forty had died and the remainder were in a state of severe shock and stress and had to be destroyed. According to the French wholesaler their meat was "only fit for sale to local authorities".

Despite failure by the transporter to comply with any of the regulations concerning the transport of livestock, the court ordered the exporter to pay the transport costs and rejected his counterclaim for damages.

Evidence as to the welfare of the animals seemed to be of no concern to the French judge who rejected such submissions as extraneous to the contract.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM PLATT
(Solicitor and Avocat),
Denison Till (Solicitors),
Chancery House,
143 Holgate Road, York.
January 9.

From Dr Rosemary Harris

Sir, May I advocate a campaign to encourage the consumption of our own home-reared veal. A short time ago I persuaded my local butcher to switch from stocking Dutch veal to British veal — but, regretfully, he soon switched back again on the grounds that customers who had not previously bought veal bought none — it is an expensive meat — and those who liked their "nice white" veal refused to touch it.

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY HARRIS,
Eglentyne, 6 Nun's Walk,
Virginia Water, Surrey.

From Lady Frank

Sir, I would like to remind farmers that humanely and home-reared calves, producing good quality veal, were nothing new to their grandparents.

In my copy of Mrs Beeton's *Everyday Cookery* (c1914) there are 40 recipes spread over 16 pages for various dishes. They use the whole carcass, from knuckles to neck — even the bones, when long-enough boiled, produce excellent aspic.

Surely in return for such a bonanza the housewife should be ready to pay a price satisfactory to the farmer, middleman and butcher.

Yours faithfully,
M. M. FRANK,
Orchard Cottage,
Grove Road, Bristol, Avon.

Looking back on the Attlee legacy

From Mr Alec L. Parrott

Sir, Your leading article, "From Attlee to Blair" (January 3), is not entirely fair to Churchill's coalition Government and to the Beveridge report.

The framework of the great programme of post-war social reform which you describe as the crowning glory of the Attlee Government was, of course, set out in that report. It was agreed in principle by the wartime Cabinet, and announced to the British people in one of Churchill's memorable broadcasts on March 21, 1943.

The National Health Service was promised, as was educational reform and much else besides, but there was no mention of a cradle-to-grave welfare state. What the coalition Government actually favoured, as did Beveridge, was "national compulsory insurance for all classes for all purposes from the cradle to the grave", as Churchill put it.

Many historians have fallen into the same trap. On December 1, 1982, on the 40th anniversary of publication of the Beveridge report, you said, in a leader headed "Wanted: a new Beveridge": "The Attlee and successor governments rushed to pay benefits before they had been earned."

You were right then. That is where things went wrong for the Labour Government after the war, and that is where either Mr Blair — or Mr Major — could start to put things right now.

Yours faithfully,
ALEC L. PARROTT,
Albion Cottage,
3 Grays Lane, Ashtead, Surrey.
January 3.

From Sir Kenneth Lewis

Sir, Those of us who fought the 1945 election will never forget the excitement of a first political poll for ten years. The whole country felt the same about it and provided candidates with packed meetings and good-humoured heckling. Under Winston Churchill's leadership we were sure to win; but, we didn't.

Fifty years later, will it happen again? The present Government has a problem similar to that of the end of the 1945-51 Labour Government. It has completed a denationalisation proposal; some of its most senior ministers are out, or going out, or worn out. There is an accident-proneness which comes with an administration which is getting on a bit!

So what to do? All is not lost. Damage limitation at the next general election must be the order of the day. Try to win, certainly, but get organised to prevent the worst.

The 1945-51 Labour Governments were long on legislation and short on time to digest it. The present Government has been short on legislation but long on the controversy surrounding it. The whole party in Westminster had better cut down on internal controversy or face another defeat, as we did in 1945.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH LEWIS,
Redlands,
Preston, Oakham, Rutland.

Israel's settlements

From Lord Hylton

Sir, Your editorial of January 3, "On disputed land", correctly pointed out that new and expanded settlements breach the spirit of the 1993 Declaration of Principles (the Oslo Agreements), and that Mr Rabin's latest compromise concerning el-Khader/Efrat does not address the heart of the dispute.

It is necessary to go further and state that all settlements in territories occupied from 1967 violate the 4th Geneva Convention, to which Israel is a party. They constitute illegal acts in international law.

UN Security Council resolution 242 asserted the necessity of giving up occupied land in return for peace. The Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Palestinian citizens of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem have recognised the lawful existence of Israel. They have delivered an end to terrorism and to the intifada, in so far as is in their power.

It is now time for Israel to start removing its settlements, beginning with the most provocative ones, for example in Gaza and Hebron. If this can be done promptly and with good grace, the chances of negotiating for some settlements to remain permanently may be quite good. To say that nothing can change before negotiations in 1996 is only too likely to bedevil the situation, giving encouragement to extremists on both sides.

Those who recall the Camp David Agreements will remember that these required the removal of Israeli settlements from Sinai (where they hardly threatened anybody). This was intensely unpopular with some in Israel; nevertheless the Government of the day honoured its obligations.

I trust this precedent will be followed once again. Such a course would be supported by many friends of Israel, who can see the highly constructive part which that country can come to play throughout the Middle East.

Yours faithfully,
HYLTON,
House of Lords.
January 4.

Magdalen papyrus

From Professor Emeritus J. Neville Birdsall

Sir, I consider that the redating by Dr Carsten Thiede of the Magdalen papyrus fragments of the St Matthew Gospel and your coverage of it (reports and leading article, December 24; letters, December 29 and January 2) require further comment.

Our ignorance of the papyrus prior to its publication is paralleled by manuscripts of all kinds, which often lie long unstudied. They are not purposely neglected, but no scholar is to hand with the interest, expertise and time to examine them.

In this case, such a scholar appeared in 1953, in the person of C. H. Roberts, who later identified other fragments of the same manuscript preserved in Barcelona. The papyrus was listed in 1954 amongst New Testament papyri; its purchase in Luxor by the Reverend Charles B. Huleatt in 1901 and his gift to Magdalen College, Oxford, were specified in that list.

The manuscript has not been neglected since, as your articles suggest, but frequently referred to, and its variant readings quoted. Sir Eric Turner used data from it in *The Typology of the Codex* (1977) and concluded by different criteria a similar dating.

My own examination of photographs of the manuscript against the plates of Professor Guglielmo Cavallo's epoch-making work of 1967, *Researches into Biblical Majuscule*, on the style known as "biblical uncial", confirms the description of the hand by Roberts as a precursor of that style, which flourished in the 3rd and 4th centuries.

This papyrus is no more "mysterious" than the rest of the known 98 papyri of the New Testament. Study shows that its text is of a kind long known to have been used in early centuries. Dr Thiede's theory, even if correct, does no more than indicate earlier attestation of a text-type of which we have other more extensive knowledge.

Yours faithfully,
J. NEVILLE BIRDSALL
(Professor of New Testament Studies and Textual Criticism, University of Birmingham, 1983-86),
75 Stanhope Road South,
Darlington, Co Durham.

From Mr Maurice S. Thompson

Sir, Although carbon dating "could only indicate the age of the ... papyrus, not when the text was written" (interview with Dr Thiede, December 26), presumably such a test will be made. If the papyrus dates from the late 2nd century AD the text will clearly not be earlier. If however it can be shown to date from the first half of the 1st century it would seem strange had it lain unused for 100 years or more, and the case for the earlier date would be strengthened.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE S. THOMPSON,
26 Horne Close, Sharnbrook, Bedford.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Children in distress

From Prebendary Dr Chad Varah

Sir, Fewer than 4 per cent of the 10,000 calls received daily by Childline (report, January 7) get answered. The Samaritans warned at the outset that this would be the case, and begged the organisers to add to their publicity: "If all lines engaged, ring the Samaritans". This was refused.

We have been aware since 1953 that nothing is more depressing for a suicidal person than to be offered help and then experience repeated frustration. We have been taking calls from children, in strictest confidence, for 41 years, and are starting a single number to ring if the local branch lines are repeatedly engaged, after trying it out in Scotland. Surely the Childline answer-phones should mention it.

Yours faithfully,
CHAD VARAH (Rector),
St Stephen Walbrook, EC4.

Salami tactics

From Mr Stevenson Pugh

Sir, The display of sausages from all over Europe on my local Tesco delicatessen counter tempted me to order an assortment of two slices of each of six kinds for my wife and me for lunch. Alas, I was thwarted by a regulation, which the assistant explained apologetically came not from her management but Brussels, forbidding serving less than 1¼ ounces of any one kind.

For *assiette anglaise* read *bêtise bruxelloise*?

Yours etc,
STEVENSON PUGH,
44 Mount Pleasant,
Bishops Tawton, Devon.

A sour taste

From Ms J. E. Meadows

Sir, I think I can match Mr Hustler's restaurant horror story (letter, January 11). My lunch companion in a hotel restaurant in a West Sussex town my lunch companion was told that his order for local fish pie could not be met "because the chef has run out of frozen pastry".

Yours faithfully,
J. E. MEADOWS,
14 Kingswood Drive, SE19.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 12: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new extension of the Bacons End Centre Association, 2 Waterloo Avenue, Fordbridge, Solihull, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, later attended a fund-raising Conference at Mason Hall, University of Birmingham.

The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon visited the Occupational Therapy Department, Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond, Surrey.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Spinal Injuries Association, this evening attended the Oil and Gas Industry Quiz Evening and Dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London W1.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 12: The Prince of Wales, Patron, National Trust's Centenary, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London W1, to mark the launch of the Centenary year.

Dr Manon Williams was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 12: The Duke of Gloucester, President, The Royal Norfolk Agricultrual Association, this afternoon attended the Annual General Meeting at Easton College, Easton, Norwich, Norfolk.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman).

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 12: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, today received Lieutenant Colonel Simon Young, commanding the First Battalion, relinquishing the appointment, and Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Cook assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will visit the A.K. Bell Library, York Place, Perth, at 12.30; and will visit Caledonian Court, Caledonian Road, Perth, at 2.40.

The Princess of Wales, as patron, Centrepoint, will visit the charity's cold weather shelter at 30 Leicester Square, W1, at 11.00.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jan van Goyen, landscape painter, Leiden, The Netherlands, 1596; Charles Perrault, writer and collector of folk tales, Paris, 1628.

DEATHS: Edmund Spenser, poet, London, 1599; George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, London, 1691; James Macknight, biblical critic, Edinburgh, 1800; John Scott, 1st Earl of Eldon, Lord Chancellor 1801-06 and 1807-27, London, 1838; Fabian Bellinghausen, polar explorer, Russia, 1852; Stephen Collins Foster, songwriter, New York, 1864; Sir John Seeley, historian, Cambridge, 1895; James Joyce, novelist, Zurich, 1941; Hubert Humphrey, American Vice-President 1965-69, Waverley, Minnesota, 1978.

Dinner

Coningsby Club
Mr Jeremy Hanley, Chairman of the Conservative Party, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner of the Coningsby Club held last night at the Carlton Club. Mr Clive Blackwood was the host.

Birthdays today

Mr Craigie Aitchison, painter, 69; Air Marshal Sir John Baker-Carr, 89; Mr Clive Betts, MP, 45; Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, former Premier of Queensland, 84; Mr Richard Blackford, composer, 41; Mr Michael Bond, author and creator of Paddington Bear, 69; Dr Sydney Brenner, CH, molecular biologist, 68; Sir John Caines, civil servant, 62; Miss Carolyn Corben, fashion designer, 32; Mr Edward Crew, chief constable, Northamptonshire, 49; the Earl of Essex, 75; Mr Stephen Glover, former editor, The Independent on Sunday, 43; Mr Stephen Hendry, snooker player, 26; Mr Ronan Rafferty, golfer, 31; Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, 57; Mr Bernard Shrimsley, journalist, 64; Mr K.C. Turpin, former Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University, 80.

Appointments in the Forces

Rear-Admiral J.J. Blackham to be Assistant Chief of Naval Staff and Admiral President Greenwich in succession to Rear-Admiral J.R. Brigstocke in March.

Commodore D.J. Wood to be promoted Rear-Admiral and to be Director General Aircraft (Navy) in succession to Rear-Admiral R.C. Moylan-Jones in February.

Commodore R.B. Lees to be promoted Rear-Admiral and to be Director General Naval Personnel Strategy and Plans in succession to Rear-Admiral J.J. Blackham in February.

Captain T.W. Loughran Royal Navy to be promoted Rear-Admiral and to be Flag Officer Naval Aviation in succession to Rear-Admiral I.D.G. Garnett in June.

School announcements

Headington School, Oxford
The Spring Term began on January 11. The Friends AGM and dinner will be on January 27, and the speaker will be Professor Norman Stone. The 1st and Under 14 Netball VIIs will be representing Oxfordshire as County Champions in the Southern Counties Netball at Theale on January 28. The Careers Evening will be on February 14. In the Headington Lecture Series 'Towards AD 2000' The Right Hon The Baroness Young, of Farnworth, will lecture on 'The Practice of Democracy' on February 23. The School Confirmation Service will be taken by the Right Reverend Ronald Gordon, Sub-Dean of Christ Church, in the School Hall on March 19. The Senior House Drama Competition will be on March 27. Term ends on March 29.

North Foreland Lodge
The Spring Term began at North Foreland Lodge on Wednesday. The Head Girl for this term is Jemima Fishburn. The first main-out will be from January 28-29 and half term from February 10-15. Reserve Parents Meeting and the Third Form play will be on March 10. Term ends on March 24.

St Mary's School, Ascot
The annual Ascot Old Girls Association reunion lunch will take place at the Ball Room, Grosvenor House Hotel, London on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at 12.30pm. The lunch will be preceded by Mass at noon at Farm Street.

Memorial service

Mr Peter Cushing
A memorial service for Mr Peter Cushing was held yesterday at St Paul's, Covent Garden. Canon Bill Hall, Senior Chaplain of the Actors' Church Union, officiated. Mr Ron Moody and Mr Christopher Lee read the lessons. Mr James Bree paid tribute to Peter's early years, and Mr Kevin Francis paid tribute to his later years. Miss Rosie Ashe, soprano, sang If love were all, accompanied by Mr Jonathan Cohen, piano. Among others present were:

Mr and Mrs Michael Cushing, Mrs Ann Sutherland, Mr Noel Beck, Sir Ronald Millar, Mr and Mrs B Broughton, Mr Richard Briers, Mr Donald Sinden, Miss Joanna Lumley, Mr and Mrs Paul Eddington, Mrs Gordon Jackson, Mrs Christopher Lee, Mr Monty Berman, Mr Patrick Allen and Miss Sarah Lawson, Mr David Rintoul, Mr and Mrs Peter Sasdy, Mr and Mrs Michael Redington, Miss Ingrid Pitt, Mr Oliver Reed.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Elstree and Borehamwood, Mr Paul Welsh, Miss Yvette Herries, Mr Victor Davis, Mr and Mrs Chris Moore, Mr N Gadd, Miss Violet Rawson, Mr Peter Lloyd, Mr Donald Morley, Mr George J Bourner, Mr Paul Welsh, Mr John Chapman, Mr D Elliot, Mrs Lisa Johnson, Mrs Margaret Smith, Mr James Smith, Mr and Mrs Tim Reyner, Mr Alan Sacks, Mr Alan Took, Mr Tom Humphries, Mrs Eva Hook, Mr Colin Bourner, Mr John Peak, Ms Lorna Fonseca, Mr David Claughton, Mr David Miller, Mr David Prowse, Mr and Mrs Andrew Humphrey, Mr Russ Wilks, Mrs Christopher Nunn, Mr Ian Scones, Ms Gillian Garrow, Mr P Bergson, Ms Rebecca Lacey, Mr David Stuckey, Mr Malcolm Morris, and Mr John Bullock.

Mr Jack Allen (Actors' Benevolent Fund), Mr Ian McGarry (British Actors' Equity Association), Mr and Mrs Roy Skeggs (Hammer Film Productions), Miss Annette Pearse (Arlington Productions), Ms Annie Wallbank (Finishing Post Productions), Mrs Lisa Parkes (Walton Theatre Collection), Miss Polly Graham (Daily Express), Mr Nigel Seale (The Spotlight) and Miss Pam Reeve, Mr Neil Pickford (The Whitstable Times) and Mr Chris Davey, Mr Richard Moxon (Marriott Harrison), Mr Roger Dennis (Lloyds Bank).

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Latest wills

Sir Thomas Henry Wait Armstrong, of Olney, Buckinghamshire, Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, 1955-68, left estate valued at £324,221 net.
He left £1,000 to Keble College, Oxford, towards the upkeep and repair of the college organ, and £500 to Newton Blossomville parish church.

Dr Margaret Templeton Gibson, of Oxford, the medievalist, left estate valued at £165,674 net.
She left her entire estate to the University of London to benefit the Warburg Institute.

Mr Miles Aubrey Handy, of Tiverton, Devon, left estate valued at £729,887 net.
He left £12,000, two paintings and 1/5th of the residue to personal legatees, and 1/5th of the residue each to the Devon Gardens Trust, National Trust, RSPB and Leukaemia Research Fund.

Other estates include (net before tax):

Mr Joseph Addison, of Alresford, Hampshire £926,524
Mr John Arthur Brett, of Sunbury, Middlesex £1,130,700
Mrs Dorothy Croucher, of Pickering, North Yorkshire .. £1,143,906
Mr Imrich Dreszer, of Milton Common, Oxfordshire £810,313

Woolmen's Company

The following have been elected officers of the Woolmen's Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr Clifford S. Dennis; Upper Warden, Mr Michael D. Abrahams; Under Warden, Mr Rex S. Johnson.

New ambassador

Mr Alan Goulty to be Ambassador to Sudan in succession to Mr P.J. Streams who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Election

Miss Heather Hallett, QC, to be Leader of the South Eastern Circuit of the Bar from February 1, in succession to Mr David Penry-Davey, QC.



A family portrait of Crown Prince Pavlos of Greece and Marie-Chantal Miller, who are to marry in London on July 1. Top row, from the left: Miss Miller's father Robert Warren Miller, the Crown Prince, his father the former King Constantine; bottom row, Mrs Chantal Miller, her daughter, and Queen Anne-Marie

Chartered Foresters

The following have passed the Institute of Chartered Foresters' 1994 Professional Examinations and have been promoted to Ordinary Membership, with the right to use the title "Chartered Forester" and the designation "MICFor", with effect from January:

R C Brooke, Forest Enterprise, Sheffield; S M J Brougham, Scottish School of Forestry, Inverness; P M Campbell, Fountain Forestry, Hayon-Wye; R C Chamberlain, Forestry Authority, Llandrindod Wells; E J Cruickshank, Harewood Estate, Leeds.

B J Ditchburn, Forest Enterprise, Newport, Gwent; D K Ellerby, Forest Enterprise, Neath, West Glamorgan; B Gurneberg, Timber Growers Association, Edinburgh; T A Harland, Forest Enterprise, Neath, West Glamorgan; T J Hodges, The Woodland Trust, East Sussex; T A R Jenkins, University College of North Wales, Bangor.

R C Leisch, Tilhill Economic Forestry, Church Stretton, Shropshire; D B Lewis, Harper Adams Agricultural College, Shropshire; E J Mills, Pennine Heritage, Hebden Bridge, West Yorks; T N Oliver, Forestry Authority, Santon Downham, Suffolk; G B Phillips, Overseas Development Administration (Sri Lanka); M R Plowman, Forestry Authority, Forest Research Station, Surrey.

T D L Rees, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge; J R Reid, Forest Enterprise, Morpeth, Northumberland; J F Risby, Forest Enterprise, Fort William, Inverness-shire; T J A Scott, Tilhill Economic Forestry, Aldershot, Hants; B E Smith, Euroforest, Dingwall, Ross-shire; A J Smith, Forest Enterprise, Mansfield, Notts.

G Taylor, Pryor & Rickett Silviculture, Hereford; C J Tucker, Hastings Borough Council, East Sussex; S J Van-Loock, Llysfasi College, Denbigh, Clwyd.

J P Watts, Overseas Development Administration (Cameroon); J M F Weir, Forest Enterprise, Aberdeen; W J Wilding, Tilhill Economic Forestry, Farnham, Surrey; S W Wilkinson, Charlton Abbots Forestry, Cheltenham, Glos; I H Willoughby, Forestry Authority, Forest Research Station, Surrey.

Dartmouth entrants

The following candidates were declared successful for entry to the Royal Navy and entered Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, on January 4:

Naval College Entry

Midshipman (Full Career Commission) Seaman
S Burke, St Richard Gwyn School, Flint, North East Wales Institute of Higher Education; D M Crowe, Queen Elizabeth School, Crediton, Blundell's School, Tiverton, University of Essex; A E Webb, Prebendal School, Chichester, Harrow School; R A Clark, Ipswich School.

Midshipman (Short Career Commission) Seaman
G S Nimmo *U/Y, Queensferry High School; S J A Steel *U/Y, Dumbarton Academy, Glasgow College of Technology; N J Duncan *U/Y, King's Manor School, Yeovil College; S P Dempsey *U/Y, South African College High School, Elize Hele School.

Midshipman (Full Career Commission) Engineering
V A Gillard, The Abbey School, Reading, Pates Grammar School, Cheltenham.

Midshipman (Medium Career Commission) Air Traffic Control
N A Payne, The Castle School, Thornbury; J R Rawles *C/C, Wells Blue School.

Midshipman (Medium Career Commission) Air (Pilot)
D H Thomas, Wells Cathedral School.

Direct Graduate Entry

Sub Lieutenant (Full Career Commission) Seaman
P J Schreier, Melbourne Grammar School, University of Cambridge; S P Brady, Formby High School, King George VI Sixth Form College, Southampton University; C R Monk, Guildford County Secondary School, University College London; B S Pearse, Waingels Copse School, Woodley, London Guildhall University; M J Greasley, Melbourn Village College, Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, London University; T F Byrne, Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham Boys School, London, Thomas Tallis School, London, Newcastle-upon-Tyne University; K M Walsh, St Joseph's RC Comprehensive, Workington; UMIST; C L Turner, West Hatch School, Chigwell, London Guildhall University; S S Habgood, The High School, Bedford, Southampton University; R P Steadman, Queen Elizabeth's Boys School, Barnet, Portsmouth University; J D Patterson, S M Sim, Mackie Academy, Stonehaven, Aberdeen University.

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Seaman
A J Crabb, Sentinel Secondary School, Vancouver, Thorpe Junior High School, NJ, USA, Harmony Elementary School, NJ, USA, Aberdeen University, Liverpool University.

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Seaman)
D E Burke, Canon Slade School, Bolton, Cambridge University; A M McEwan, St Leonards School, Fife, Nottingham University; A J Crutchfield, Downsend School, Leatherhead, Charterhouse School, Godalming, Birmingham University; I D McCulloch, Peebles High School, Stevenson College of Further Education, Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University.

Sub Lieutenant (Short Career Commission) Air (Pilot)
I J Black; G R Jones, The Fitzwimarc School, Rayleigh, South East Essex Sixth Form College, Nottingham University.

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Air (Observer)
T S Hutchins, Devonport High School for Boys, Birmingham University; R D Crates, Mountbatten School, Romsey, Barton Peveril Sixth Form College, Eastleigh, Manchester University; D W McDougall, Ardrossan Academy, Leicester University.

Sub Lieutenant (Medium Career Commission) Air (Pilot)
S R Straughan, Heathfield School, Low Fell, Salford University; S W Vorley, Beacon Community College, Crowborough, Warwick University; E J Powell, Finham Park School, Coventry, Edinburgh University.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.D. Aldridge and Miss N.M. Flood
The engagement is announced between Andrew David, only son of Mr and Mrs Albert Aldridge, of Worthing, Sussex, and Nicola Marie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Flood, of Roehampton, London.

Mr R.J. Booth and Miss J.M. Cooper
The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Mr and Mrs Lyndon Booth, of Tetbury, Gloucestershire, and Joanne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Cooper, of Pontnewydd, Gwent.

Mr S.A.McK. Brunton and Miss E.E.S. Cousins
The engagement is announced between Sean, younger son of Mr and Mrs D.M.R. Brunton, of Latchford Lodge, Standon, Hertfordshire, and Erica, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs M. Cousins, of Wormley, Surrey.

Mr A.J. Fawcett and Miss P.M.H. Rix
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs A.J. Fawcett, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.J. Rix, of Meeting Hill, Norfolk.

Mr J.S. Green and Miss A.L. Ross
The marriage will take place in New York on January 21 of Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Green, to Alison, daughter of Mr Allen Ross and of Mrs Brooke Grace.

Mr C.D. Hall-Thompson and Miss J.M. Allibone
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mrs Ursula Hall-Thompson and the late Rear-Admiral Derrick Hall-Thompson, of Hythe, Kent, and Jennifer, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Anthony Allibone, of Blakeney, Norfolk.

Mr P.R. Hardcastle and Miss F.E. Liston
The engagement is announced between Peter, only son of Mrs Eleanor Hardcastle and the late Mr Kenneth Hardcastle, of Chester, and Fiona, younger daughter of Professor and Mrs John Liston, of Seattle, Washington, USA.

Mr M.A.B. Mitchell and Miss R.E. Spittle
The engagement is announced between Mark Andrew Brian, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Dominic Mitchell, of Milverton, Somerset, and Rosemary Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Spittle, of Bookham, NSW, Australia.

Mr P.J. Searle and Miss J.M. Thellusson
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the late Geoffrey Searle and of Dr Diana Ernaelsteen, of Welwyn Garden City, and Joanna, daughter of Mr Peter Thellusson, of Alstonfield, and Mrs Lesley Thellusson, of Derby.

Mr J.J.M. Kelly and Miss E.A. Hollern
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Captain and Mrs John Kelly, of Martin, Hampshire, and Erica, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Hollern, of Bend, Oregon.

Mr M. Lloyd Williams and Miss P. Melwani
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Lloyd Williams, of Bath, Avon, and Poonam, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Arjan Melwani, of Hong Kong.

Mr J.H.R. Pool and Miss J-E. Barker
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs W.T. Pool, of Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset, and Jo-Elizabeth, daughter of Dr and Mrs D. Barker, of September House, Blackboys, East Sussex.

Mr C.I. Rowe and Miss J.H. Griffin
The engagement is announced between Colin, elder son of Jane Rowe, of Kingston, and Jeremy Rowe, of Weardale, and June, youngest daughter of Percy Griffin and the late Alice Griffin, of The City of London.

Flight Lieutenant R.H.W. Sanders and Miss S.L. Wild
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs C.H. Sanders, of Farnham, Surrey, and Lindsey, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.B. Wild, of Dore, Sheffield.

Mr C. Siddons and Miss M.V. von Bertele-Areilza
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Siddons, of Northampton, and Marceline, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Ulrich von Bertele-Areilza, of Cranleigh, Surrey.

Mr J. Thompson and Miss V. Hanson-Smith
The engagement is announced between James, son of the late Mr Reginald Thompson and of Mrs Thompson, of Collyweston, Lincolnshire, and Verity, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Hanson-Smith, of Upper Guist, Norfolk.

Mr T. Watson and Miss H.A. Rosenberg
The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of the late Roland Watson and of Mrs Margaret Watson, of Guestling, Sussex, and Helen Averill, younger daughter of the late Dr Henry Rosenberg and of Mrs Mary Rosenberg, of Worthing.

Mr J.J.A. Wilson and Miss A-M. Wroblewska
The engagement is announced between Jonathan James Angus, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Angus Wilson, of Dulwich, and Anna-Maria, only daughter of Professor and Mrs B. Michael Wroblewski, of Parbold, Lancashire.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev John Barnes, Vicar, Great Ilford, St Mary (Chelmsford): to be also a non-Residentiary Canon of Chelmsford Cathedral

The Rev Frank Coleman, Vicar, Denford w. Ringstead: now also Priest-in-charge, Islip (Peterborough)

The Rev Paul Conrad, Vicar, St Martin, Gospel Oak: to be Priest-in-charge, Christ Church, Hampstead (London)

The Rev Alan Costerton, Vicar, Thornton, Bagworth and Stanton: to be Team Rector, Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave (Leicester)

The Rev Ivy Crawford, Assistant Curate, Harlow New Town, St Paul w. Little Parndon, St Mary: to be Vicar, Blackmore w. Stondon Massey (Chelmsford)

The Rev Martyn Davis, Diocesan Youth Officer, diocese Peterborough: to be Priest-in-charge, Margate St John (Canterbury)

The Rev Nigel Elliott, Curate, Radcliffe Team Ministry (Manchester): to be Priest-in-charge, Kilnhurst, Rotherham (Sheffield)

The Rev Ian Falconer, Vicar, Byker, St Silas: to be Priest-in-charge, Newcastle St Philip and St Augustine, and Priest-in-charge, Newcastle St Matthew and St Mary (Newcastle)

The Rev Mary Gaskell, NSM, Cleckheaton St Luke and Whitechapel (Wakefield): to be Assistant Chaplain, St James University Hospital, Leeds (Ripon)

The Rev Martyn Gough, Curate, St Margaret's, Roath (Llandaff): to be Assistant Chaplain of Milan and Varese, Italy (Europe)

The Rev Patrick Hobson, Team Rector, Waltham Holy Cross Team Ministry (Chelmsford): to be also a non-Residentiary Canon of Chelmsford Cathedral

The Rev David Hoyle, Chaplain, Magdalene College, Cambridge (Ely): to be Vicar, Christ Church, Southgate (London)

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

Because you put your faith in God, you are under the protection of his power until the salvation now in readiness is revealed at the end of time. 1 Peter 1 : 5 (REB)

BIRTHS

ALLPORT - On January 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Catherine (née Creasy) and Simon, a son, Theodore Bacchus, a brother for Rogan and Cameron.

BAKER - On January 11th 1995, to Melinda and Jonathon, a son.

BATESON - On January 9th, to Anna (née Burley) and David, a son, James Matthew, a brother for Michael.

DALY
ON JANUARY 9TH 1995
At Frenley Park Hospital
To Paula and James
A Treasured Son
JAMES CHRISTOPHER
6lbs 7ozs.

ELLIS - On January 12th, at Bath Hospital, Somerset, to Lindsay and Stephen, a son, James Edward.

EVANS - A Beautiful daughter - Alicia Charlotte, to Helen (Née Langworthy) and Jeff, on 9th January 1995 at Clinica Sant'anna, Lugano, Switzerland.

MARASCO - On January 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Vickie and Rock, a beautiful baby boy, Michael Christian, a brother for Anthony.

BIRTHS

MATANLE - On January 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Vanessa (née MacDonald-Smith) and Stephen, a son, Samuel Jake Arthur, a brother for Natasha.

McNULTY - On December 16th, at RUH, Bath, to John and Maureen, a wonderful son, Keelan John.

MORTON - On January 6th 1995, to Lucy (née Binney) and Guy, a son, Henry.

ROCCA - On December 17th 1994, to Penelope (née Swainson) and Francesco, a son, Edward Salvatore James.

RUTHERFORD - On January 11th 1995, to Sarah (née Cooper) and Mark, a daughter, Georgina, a sister for Natasha.

VAVASOUR - On 8th January, at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, to Sarah (née Jaques) and Simon, a daughter, Kate Victoria Alice, a sister to Rosie.

DEATHS

BOOTH-SMITH - On January 10th, peacefully, Edith Mary, aged 88. Dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service to take place at Beckenham Crematorium on Thursday January 19th at 3pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to R.N.I.B. c/o H. Copeland & Son Ltd., 9 Bromley Road, Beckenham, Kent.

DEATHS

BROCKMAN - On January 12th in Malta peacefully after a long illness. Hilda Mary (née Sickluna) aged 86 widow of Captain William Eric Brockman (who himself predeceased her by only four weeks), beloved mother of John and his wife, Lilian and Tina and her husband, Michael Raginet. Much loved grandmother of Barbara Brockman and Camilla Watkins, Crispin Raginet and Georgina Elwes and of her great-grandchildren. Funeral Saturday in Malta.

COLMAN - On January 10th, after long illness cheerfully borne, Hans-Joachim (Hugh). Much loved husband of Lorna, devoted father to Andrea, Nick, Arpe and Dardan to his nine grandchildren. Funeral Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Friday 20th January 12 noon. Family flowers only.

COMMISKEY - On January 11th, peacefully at home, after a long illness courageously borne, Irene, 78 years, much loved and greatly missed wife of Ian, mother, grandmother and mother-in-law. Service at Robin Hood Crematorium, Solihull, Wednesday 18th January 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Motor Neurone Disease Association c/o Thomas Bragg & Sons, 552 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 4AY.

CROSS - Peter H., died on Sunday, 8th January in Mallorca. He was buried privately on Thursday 12th January in Valldemossa. His daughter, Tatiana, and her family, and all his many friends will miss this wonderful man greatly. Tatiana Cross Dumas 2, Avenue Josephine, Hameau de la Jonchere, 92500 Rueil-Malmaison, France.

DEATHS

DAVIES - On Wednesday January 11th at Criccieth, Mansel Morris, husband of the late Rhiannon Davies, father of Huw Ceredig (Droitwich) and of Rhodri Ceredig (Strasbourg) and grateful master of Pal, Bobbie, Benja, Shep and Mog, sometime professor of chemistry U.C.W. Aberystwyth. Obsequies private.

DUNCAN - On Friday 6th January 1995, at Ramsey Cottage Hospital, Ian, aged 89 years, of Ramsey, Isle of Man, formerly of Plymtree, Cullompton, Devon and Rhu, Dunbartonshire. Beloved husband of the late Pam and father of William. Funeral on Wednesday 18th January, 11.30 am at Douglas Borough Crematorium, I.O.M. for service and cremation. Family flowers only, please. Donations to Bev, if desired, to Age Concern Isle of Man, 13 Castle Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 2EX. Enquiries to Corkhill & Callow Ltd., Funeral Directors, tel: (0624) 813114.

DYER - On January 10th, John Arthur aged 72. Loving husband of Iris. Funeral will be held at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on January 23rd at 2 pm.

FORBES - On 10th January, suddenly at Bembridge, Isle of Wight, Spencer, dearly loved and greatly missed father of James and Camilla. Funeral at 2 pm Tuesday 17th January at Holy Trinity, Bembridge.

HARRIS - The Reverend Herbert Lewis, aged 89, on 10th January 1995: husband of Peggy, father of Phillippa, Jennifer, Hatty and George. Funeral on Wednesday 18th January at 2 pm in Harrow School Chapel, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only; donations may be sent to Coniston Mountain Rescue Team, c/o J. Armstrong, 19 Collingwood Close, Coniston, Cumbria LA21 8DZ.

DEATHS

HELLINGS - John Douglas O.B.E., died on 5th January 1995, aged 81 years and will be much missed by all his family and friends. Flowers or if preferred donations to the British Heart Foundation may be sent to Pinnins Funeral Services, Charters, Mary Road, Guildford, GU1 4QX.

HUGHES - Peacefully, on 9th January 1995, at the home of her dear sister: Winefride, aged nearly 82. She came from Aviesford and her much-loved Jennings family to Sheldon, where, for 47 years to the day, she was darling Nan to Antony, Mary Blanche, Bridget, Lal, Kate and Julian and all their children. May she rest in peace.

HUNT - On January 11th, suddenly, Jessie (Toby) Edna Ellis (née Northrop) aged 80, loving mother of Katharine, David and Angela and dear grandmother of Mark, Andrew, Christopher, Tom, Joanne, Richard, Daisy and Craig. Deeply missed by all her family and friends. Flowers to Fred Stevens Funeral Director, Newmarket Road, Nailsworth, Gloucestershire GL6 0DQ, tel: (04453) 832188. Funeral Service to be held at Christ Church, Newmarket Road, Nailsworth, on Thursday January 19th at 3 pm, to be followed by burial at Tetbeth Park Cemetery, Smithdown Road, Liverpool 15, at 2 pm on Friday January 20th 1995.

JAMES - On 6th January 1995, suddenly at his home in Swansea, John Gwyn Howell (Toby) James (former Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and Surgeon Lieutenant Commander R.N.V.R.), Beloved husband of Nansi and dearly loved father of Dafydd, Timothy and Gethin. Enquiries to William Preedee Funeral Directors of Mumbles, tel: (01792) 366513.

DEATHS

KINGSBURY - James, peacefully at home after a long illness, on January 11th, dearly loved husband of Kathleen and father of Matthew, Roger, Tim, Melanie and Laurence.

MAPP - Gillian Linda, beloved wife of Grahame, much loved mother of Penny, Chris, Kate and Andrew, darling daughter of Joan and Douglas Shepherd. Gill passed away peacefully at her house in Gordon, N.S.W., at 2.30 pm on January 11th, aged 47 years, after a short illness. Gill's positive and caring spirit for life will remain her gift to all who have known her. She will be buried on Monday after a service at the Gordon Uniting Church.

MAYHEW-SANDERS - Sylvia Mary, Lady Mayhew-Sanders, died peacefully on 10th January 1995, after a long illness borne to the end with exceptional cheerfulness and courage. A very dearly loved wife, mother and grandmother. Much loved too by her many other relatives and friends. Private cremation on Wednesday 18th January. The following day, Thursday 19th January at 11.30 am there will be a Service of Thanksgiving in the Church of the Ascension, Burghclere. No flowers please but donations if desired to Newbury Cancer Care Trust may be sent to Camp Hopson, 6-12 Northbrook Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG13 1DN, telephone 0635-522210. Enquiries to Camp Hopson also.

MERRIFIELD - On 9th January, Ralph Merrifield, B.A., D.Lit, F.S.A., F.M.A. Much loved husband of Lysbeth, father of Jenny and Mike, and Grandad of Lucy, Richard and Hilary. Funeral private, memorial service to be announced later. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, London WC1.

DEATHS

MONCRIEFF - Suddenly on 10th January 1995, Harry, Architect and Author of "Roots of Labour". Memorial Service to be arranged.

MOUNSEY - On January 9th 1995, at The Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, Elizabeth Anne Mounsey. Beloved wife of Jeo and Mother of Elizabeth. Private funeral, donations if desired to The Princess Alice Hospice, West End Lane, Esher, Surrey.

NEWTON DUNN - On January 10th 1996 very suddenly, without suffering, Owen Frank Newton Dunn Lt. Colonel (retired) the Wiltshire Regiment, aged 85 years. Dearly loved and devoted husband of Barbara, after 55 years of happiness together. Precious father of Bill, Angela and Jack and proud loving grandfather of Henry, Emily, Thomas, Daisy, Olivia, Philip and Victoria. Funeral Service at Greywell Church, Hampshire, on Tuesday 17th January at 3.15 pm. No flowers please. Donations if wished to St Mary's Church, Greywell.

SIEMSSEN - Roy, aged 83, on January 11th, peacefully after a short illness. Dearest husband of Judy and much loved father of Carol, Guy and Adrian. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving at St Andrew's Church, Limpsfield Chart, on Thursday 19th January at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to R.S.P.B. or The Children's Trust c/o Ebbutt, High Street, Limpsfield, Surrey RH8 0DR tel: (0883) 713767.

TYMAN - On January 10th 1995, at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, after a long illness very bravely borne, Tuffileen aged 57 years, darling mother of Roxana and Matthew. Donations, if desired, in her memory to The Terence Higgins Trust c/o Laverton & Sons Ltd, Funeral Directors, 212 Ewerhurst Street, London NW1 1BD. Memorial Service to be announced at a later date.

DEATHS

WAITE - At home in Caister Bay New Zealand on January 7th 1996, Sir Robert Wells, husband of Heather and father of Gregory, Brendan, Paul and Noel. Funeral private. Family flowers only. Donations may be made to The Heart Foundation.

WESTMACOTT - On January 11th, Commander Herbert Patrick Westmacott DSO., DSC*., RN, Funeral at St Michael's Church, Up Marden, nr. Chichester, 2 pm on Saturday 21st January.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CHISOLM - A Memorial Service for Patrick Mark Colcohoi will be held at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Thursday February 9th at 12 noon. Those wishing to attend should apply in writing or by telephone for tickets to The Regimental Adjutant, Scots Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London, SWIE 6HQ. (071 414 3324) by February 1st 1996.

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OBITUARIES

PHILIP NEWMAN

Philip Newman, CBE, DSO, MC, orthopaedic surgeon, died on December 31 aged 83. He was born on June 22, 1911.



AFTER heroic service with the RAMC at Dunkirk and then as a prisoner of war, Philip Newman gained widespread recognition as a specialist in orthopaedic disorders of the spine and hip joint.

In the final days of the evacuation from Dunkirk he was one of three doctors and 30 other ranks, selected by lottery, to stay with those wounded who could not be evacuated.

Awarded the DSO for his services at this time, he was then a prisoner of war for nearly two years. After one unsuccessful attempt to escape from Germany, he later managed to make an astonishing escape from a PoW camp in Rouen, travelling south through France and Spain to Gibraltar, and then home in May 1942.

Even before this he had been active in promoting the escape of fellow prisoners and was awarded the MC on his return to the United Kingdom. He later became officer-in-charge of a surgical division with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

On demobilisation in 1945 he became orthopaedic surgeon in the Emergency Medical Service and was shortly afterwards appointed to the consultant staff of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, the Middlesex Hospital and King Edward VII Hospital for Officers in London.

The elder son of John Harker Newman, a civil servant, Philip Harker Newman was educated at Cranleigh preparatory and senior schools. He then entered the Medical School of Middlesex Hospital, where he was a second year exhibitioner and senior Broderip scholar, before qualifying MRCS(Eng), LRCP(Lond) in 1934. After service in hospital resident appointments and as an anatomy demonstrator, he became FRCS in 1938 and then orthopaedic and fracture registrar at the Middlesex Hospital.

After a few weeks with the Emergency Medical Service on the outbreak of the Second World War, through having been on the supplementary reserve of officers he was called up as a surgical specialist in the RAMC with the rank of major. In February 1940 he was posted to France with No 12 Casualty Clearing Station which, at the time of the evacuation from Dunkirk, became the last functioning medical unit with the British Expeditionary Force.

During the war he had published papers on the prisoner-of-war mentality and the early treatment of wounds of the knee. After the war his main interest was in orthopaedic disorders of the spine and hip joint which were the subjects of a number of his publications.

He had a high reputation as a thoroughly reliable surgeon of sound judgement and was a recognised teacher of orthopaedics in the University of London at Middlesex Hospital Medical School, and at the Institute of Orthopaedics, where he was director of the Dawn Trust unit of spinal research. He was Hunterian professor at the Royal College of Surgeons in 1954 when he lectured on Spondylolisthesis. At the Section of Orthopaedics of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1968 his presidential address was entitled *The Spine, the Wood and the Trees*, and several of his other papers were concerned with disorders of the vertebral column. He served as chairman of the medical board of St John Ambulance and was also chairman of the council and of the editorial board of the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*.

He visited South Africa as the François Fouché lecturer of the College of Medicine there in 1975. At the point of retirement from his hospital posts in 1976 he was elected president of the British Orthopaedic Association and was appointed CBE. He continued in private consulting practice for a few years before retiring to Aldeburgh.

Newman was a modest, rugged, strikingly handsome and likeable man who enjoyed great popularity with both senior and junior colleagues as well as with undergraduate and postgraduate students. A tower of strength in his prisoner-of-war camps, and an inspiration to his fellows there, he continued afterwards to inspire immense confidence in his patients.

He was a keen yachtsman and golfer and, after retirement, he derived much pleasure from the second of these hobbies.

He also then had time to fulfil a promise, made 40 years before, to write his account of the events related to the Dunkirk evacuation and his spell as a prisoner of war. His *Safer than a Known Way*, published in 1983, is a vivid and moving story of that period, demonstrating his own considerable stamina and determination; but, above all, the unquenchable fortitude of the men and women of the French Resistance who made possible his escape.

He married Elizabeth Anne Basset, a nurse, in 1943. She survives him together with their two sons and daughter.

ELAINE GREENE

Elaine Greene, literary agent, died on January 10 aged 74. She was born in New York on November 27, 1920.



THROUGHOUT the 1960s and 1970s Elaine Greene's literary agency provided an intellectual and emotional home for many writers. She was especially good at taking younger writers under her wing and encouraging them in every way with large quantities of good wine and not such good food in her house in Holland Park, along with innumerable cigarettes and endless stories.

Hers was not the grandest or the largest literary agency in London. But it was extremely well run and every one of her clients could be certain of her individual attention; her favourites really did get tender loving care.

Her clients included P. D. James, Conor Cruise O'Brien, Michael Frayn, Jonathan Miller, Sybille Bedford, Colin Forbes, Alan Scholefield, Helen Craig, William Shawcross, John Burningham, Helen Oxenbury, and in the United States Dr Seuss, Helen MacInness, Charlton Heston and Arthur Miller.

Elaine Ruth Gilbert was educated at Woodmere Academy and then Mount Holyoke College. At the age of 24 she married the gifted journalist Robert Shaplen, who was considered the dean of foreign correspondents in the Far East during the Second World War.

She worked in the editorial departments of both Random House and Knopf and in the early 1950s lived in the Far East with Shaplen. While in Saigon she met Graham Greene, to whom she took an immediate liking. He asked her to look up his brother Hugh, who was then on loan from the BBC and working in Kuala Lumpur in the psychological warfare intelligence unit. She did so and fell in love with him. She obtained a divorce from Shaplen, and afterwards, never expressed any regret.

She married Hugh Greene as his second wife in 1951 and they came to London. In the mid-1950s she launched herself on her career as an agent by becoming the director of MCA London. But in the early 1960s MCA was forced by an anti-trust action to divest itself of its agency division. The firm of Elaine Greene was immediately formed, which later became Greene & Heaton.

In 1960 Hugh Greene was appointed Director-General of the BBC and was knighted four years later. Elaine mocked the title Lady Greene but occasionally used it — especially for booking tables in restaurants — even after her divorce from Greene in 1968. (He married twice again before his death in 1987.)

Elaine Greene was brilliant at her business. She had a biting wit and cheerfully refused to put up with the more boring aspects of life — especially writers she considered to be boring. But she was intensely loyal to her friends.

Her politics were always radical and she did not suffer those she considered fools gladly — or at all. People she did not like were "boring", or "bloody boring" or "ghastly". Those whom she did like just knew that she was their friend. No epithets were needed. She proved it constantly.

Last year she was diagnosed as suffering from lung and brain cancer. She bore the increasingly debilitating efforts of the illness with her usual impatient good humour. Even after she was moved into a hospice, and her mind was beginning to wander, she sent out one of her authors to get her a bottle of vodka and laughed uproariously when he told her that the pub where he had bought it around the corner featured a spectacular stripper. She found the process of dying, she said, "a bloody bore."

She leaves her two sons.

ANDREW LEES

Andrew Lees, campaigns director of Friends of the Earth since 1990, died from a suspected heart attack on December 31 aged 45. He was born on June 8, 1949.



THE sudden death of Andrew Lees in the dense forests of south Madagascar deprives the environmental movement of one of its most indefatigable campaigners. Lees died while investigating a mining scheme. He had spent the past twenty years, latterly as the campaigns director of Friends of the Earth (FOE), challenging those authorities who were content to pollute or otherwise destroy the glories of the wild. Like Ahab, he was driven by an almost monomaniacal passion; government and industry were his white whales.

A measure of the loss, and of the man, is that the news of his death brought tributes from associates and opponents alike. He was a profoundly honourable person, and liked nothing better than exposing official wrongdoing.

Andrew John Lees was brought up in Norfolk, educated in St George's, a co-educational boarding school in Harpenden, and at the University of Wales in Cardiff, where he read botany and zoology.

His first triumph as a conservationist came in 1981. That year, the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC), for whom he had worked as a contract field scientist in the late 1970s, allowed a local authority to tip waste over the wonderful wetland of Crymlyn Bog, near Swansea. Lees was incensed, and the NCC's bureaucrats hardly knew what had hit them when Lees roared up to their Belgravia headquarters in a taxi, burst through the door and slammed down a writ challenging the decision. The NCC caved in, the dumping stopped and, 12 years later in 1993, Crymlyn's international significance was recognised under the Ramsar Convention.

That was the first of many such campaigns. From Swansea, Lees moved back to Norfolk and the Broads. His passion for nature had begun there on childhood sailing trips through the wetlands, and in later years, on rare weekends off from work, he returned there with friends.

Between 1982 and 1984 Lees led the Broadlands group of FOE in the battle to protect Halvergate Marshes from being ruined by drainage schemes to grow surplus crops with common agricultural policy (CAP) subsidies. His concern was as much to protect the marsh farmers, whose traditional grazing methods made the wildlife special, as the landscape itself.

The sight of draining diggers stopped in their tracks, surrounded by placard-carrying protesters from the local villages, FOE activists and Lees animatedly briefing journalists, became a familiar image in the press. In conjunction with political lobbying, his tactics worked. The political tide began to turn against CAP-subsidised destruction of the countryside, and this led, in 1986, to the marshlands being designated the UK's first Environmentally Sensitive Area.

Although Lees was one of the first to organise peaceful direct action in defence of wildlife, he made his mark in other ways in which his scientific background no doubt helped. He was a meticulous researcher, happily burning the midnight oil to uncover damning evidence buried deep in official papers. Obsessed by detail, he understood that facts, not scaremongering fancy, make the most compelling case, and he had a filing system that would have put Jorge Louis Borges's librarian to shame.

He also knew a good story when he saw one. He loved to read about some hapless minister or civil servant harpooned by a Lees exposé. Not surprisingly, many of his closest friends were environmental journalists.

In 1986 Lees joined FOE in London — a long-held ambition — to work on countryside, pollution and toxics issues. Here he pioneered the use of the then little known formal complaints procedure of the European Commission to ensure that successive environment ministers acted to clean up Britain's filthy bathing beaches and drinking water supplies contaminated by pesticides.

In 1988 Lees and a FOE colleague went to Nigeria to expose the illegal dumping of 8,000 tonnes of toxic waste from Europe at Koko, a tiny backwater fishing port in the Niger Delta. The resulting furore led the EC to ban the disposal of toxic waste in the Third World.

Lees's forte lay in going for the jugular of government and industry. He trapped one polluting company in Norwich by analysing the chemical composition of eels in the river where the outfall pipe led.

He was always far more interested in causing trouble than in proposing positive alternatives to objectionable policies and practices. He was a formidable eco-warrior; but as a guerrilla fighter, rather than a strategist who planned and executed grand campaigns to change society. Perhaps this was the reason why Lees was never offered the post of executive director of FOE.

Beneath an often prickly and cantankerous professional exterior, he was a spontaneously kind and generous person. He liked browsing in antiquarian bookshops and through antique markets, almost as much as he loved playing with children. The Lokian sense of mischief that helped to make him a good campaigner also made him a great playmate, and he would have made a tremendous father, as he had wished, had he found the time to start a family.

His partner for the past nine years, Christine Orengo, was a molecular researcher and chemist.

BEN RICH

Ben Rich, engineer and aircraft designer, died of cancer in Ventura, California, on January 5 aged 69. He was born in Manila, the Philippines, on June 18, 1925.



A Lockheed F117A of the 37th Tactical Fighter Wing, one of Ben Rich's Stealth fighter-bombers

FROM the U2 and SR71 spy planes, to the F117A Stealth fighter-bomber which proved so successful in the Gulf War of 1991, Ben Rich was responsible for a stream of aircraft which stretched technology to its uttermost limits. For more than 40 years he worked for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation's Advanced Development Company, better known as the Skunk Works, becoming its general manager in 1974 and retiring as president in 1991.

The Skunk Works, so called because of its original location next to a foul-smelling plastics factory in Burbank, California, has long been a source of fascination to the aviation community because of the total secrecy under which it operates. When Rich took control he was even required to work under an alias, choosing, with a certain sense of humour, the sobriquet "Ben Dover".

Ironically, however, his achievement of Stealth technology, which renders an aircraft virtually invisible to enemy radar, was the result of an idea published openly in the West by a Soviet scientist in 1975. Soviet military planners had apparently overlooked the idea or thought it of no consequence, but Rich instantly recognised its potential. "As it happened, I was damned lucky," he wrote in his autobiography last year. "Stealth technology fell in my lap."

The effectiveness of the F117A, whose very existence was long denied by the Pentagon, was amply demonstrated during the Gulf War. Although it flew only one per cent of the American-led coalition's air strikes against Iraq, the Stealth fighter accounted for 40 per cent of the targets that were damaged.

The SR71 Blackbird, the fastest aircraft in the world (though rumour has it that the Skunk Works has since produced one that flies even faster and higher), represented an even greater challenge to Rich, who was trained as an aerothermodynamicist. Flying at more than 2,000 miles an hour at altitudes up to 85,000 feet — it once flew from Los Angeles to Washington in 64 minutes — the Blackbird had to withstand temperatures of 1,200 degrees.

At the time of its conception in the early 1960s there were no standard wires or transducers, no hydraulics or pumps or oils or greases that could take such heat, nor any engine fuel that could be used safely. Rich and his fellow Lockheed designers had to start from scratch and invent them all, crafting the entire aircraft from titanium. The Blackbird was introduced in 1964 and flew successful spy missions over the Soviet Union until its retirement in 1990.

Rich joined Lockheed in 1950 after gaining master's degrees in science and mechanical engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles, and initially worked as an engineer under Clarence Johnson, one of the world's most famous aircraft designers. Unlike Johnson, who was known for his crusty profanity and demanding style of management, Rich proved to be a low-key manager who achieved results by encouraging his engineers to be ingenious, and then getting out of their way.

In 1994 Ben Rich received the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest US military award which can be given to a civilian. He is survived by his wife Hilda, a son and a daughter.

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RHYMES OF THE "REVOLUTION."

PROLETARIAN SONGS.

In the course of an amusing examination of a "proletarian anthology" contributed by Mr. A. P. Herbert in a letter to *The Times*, the well-known humorist of *Punch* suggested that "opponents of the moth-eaten theory called Socialism make a great mistake when they treat this kind of thing with solemnity instead of with ridicule." Mr. Herbert had been studying the "Songs of the International Workers of the World," a copy of an Australian edition of which had come into his possession. Mr. Herbert explained yesterday that he found them highly diverting both as examples of the art of versification and of unconscious "proletarian" humour. There was one which he found especially haunting, as it was set to the tune of "Annie Laurie." It was entitled "The Parasites," and the second verse was as follows:—

These parasites are living in luxury and state:
While millions starve and shiver, and moan
their wretched fate;
They know not why they die, nor do they ever
try
Their lot in life to better;
They only moan and sigh.

ON THIS DAY

January 13 1927

"These parasites are living in luxury and state. While millions starve and shiver and moan their wretched state", sung to the tune "Annie Laurie" was the start of one of the verses found by the author and wit, A.P. Herbert, in a copy of "Songs of the International Workers of the World."

There is another reference to parasites in "The Banner of Labour," sung to the tune of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Long, long has the spoil of labour and toil
Been wrung from the workers by parasite
classes;
While Poverty gaunt, Desolation and Want
Have dwelt in the boys of earth's toiling
masses.
Through bloodshed and tears, our day star
appears.
Industrial Union, the wage slave now cheers.

To the tune of "Take it to the Lord in Prayer" the "proletarians" sing:—

Are you almost split asunder.
Loaded like a long-eared jack?
Boob—why don't you buck like thunder?
And dump the bosses off your back.
All the agonies you suffer,
You can end with one good whack—
Stiffen up, you orn'ry duffer—
And dump the bosses off your back.

To "Marching through Georgia" is sung "One Big Industrial Union":—

How the masters holler when they hear the
dreadful sound
Of Sabotage and direct action spread the world
around:
They're getting ready to vamoose with ears
close to the ground,
From One Big Industrial Union.
You migratory workers of the common labour
clan,
We sing to you to join and be a fighting Union
man;
You must emancipate yourself, you
proletarian.
With One Big Industrial Union.

To the tune of "Tipperary" may be sung:—

It's the road to Emancipation, it's the right way
to go;
For the toilers to run the nation, and the world
both high and low.
Kick in, and do your duty: for it's up to you and
me—
It's the One Big Union of the Workers that will
bring prosperity.

NEWS

Hurd warns of Franco-German link

■ Douglas Hurd gave a strong warning to France and Germany that they could not decide the future of the European Union between them, and underlined Britain's determination to play a full part in shaping Europe's destiny.

The Foreign Secretary, speaking in Paris, called on France to work more closely with Britain and to pre-empt any suggestion that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and the next French president could set the agenda for Europe as the two countries had before the Maastricht Treaty..... Page 1

Troops end night patrols in Belfast

■ Troops will stop daytime patrols in Belfast from this Sunday in the most significant response yet to the IRA ceasefire. Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable, also said that he hoped eventually to end night patrols..... Page 1

Guardian upheaval

Peter Preston, Fleet Street's longest-serving newspaper editor, is giving up the editorship of *The Guardian* to become editor-in-chief of *The Guardian* and *The Observer*..... Page 1

Waldegrave's hope

William Waldegrave ruled out a ban on the sale of British calves to the Continent but said he was hopeful of gaining European Union support to outlaw veal crates..... Page 6

Devolution row

John Major clashed bitterly with Tony Blair over Labour's plans for a Scottish parliament which the Prime Minister claimed could lead to the break up of the United Kingdom..... Pages 1, 9

Shortage of heads

Primary schools are facing a long-term shortage of head teachers, according to research published today, that shows the first rise for five years in the number of headship vacancies..... Page 7

Operation row

A surgeon who allegedly instructed a theatre nurse to carry out an appendix operation was suspended amid calls for a health department inquiry..... Page 1

Grozny bombardment

With the partial Russian ceasefire now formally ended, the Chechen capital of Grozny suffered some of its heaviest bombardments so far..... Page 10

Passion 'killing'

A Moroccan student followed his former girlfriend to England and murdered her parents because he could not accept that she had finished their affair, a court was told..... Page 3

Croatia warned

The United Nations said that Croatia's decision to expel peacekeepers from its territory at the end of March could provoke a wider Balkan war..... Page 11

Disabled rights

Legal changes to improve the rights of disabled people and to make discrimination illegal were unveiled..... Page 4

Mexican crisis

The Mexican Government is picking up the pieces from its worst financial crisis in more than a decade. After several boom years there is a forcast 30 per cent drop in business..... Page 12

Doctor's dilemma

A doctor who has yet to receive receive a penny of the £50,000 damages he won after being accused of sexual harassment is being sued by his own solicitor for fees of £181,000..... Page 5

Quake warnings

Just 12 months after an earthquake that killed 60 people and damaged thousands of buildings, the residents of Los Angeles have been told to expect worse Page 13

Saatchi & Saatchi hit back with writs

■ The management of the Saatchi & Saatchi advertising agency has hit back in the battle with Maurice Saatchi, founder and former chairman, and three former top men. Writs have been issued against the four, accusing them of conspiring to damage the business of the group. Claims for damages are expected to run into millions of pounds..... Page 1

MIKE CARDWELL



A potential buyer looks at Rudolf Nureyev's costumes before the contents of the dancer's New York home were sold at auction yesterday

BUSINESS

Bank jobs: Union leaders representing staff in National Westminster's retail division reacted angrily as the bank confirmed that it is to seek further job cuts..... Page 21

Rank: The film and leisure combine that owns the Odeon cinemas, has tied up a long-awaited deal to cut its holding in Rank Xerox, the joint venture producing photo-copiers dating from 1956..... Page 21

TSB: The bank group has recorded its first half billion pound profit after a sharp fall in provisions on the bad debts amassed during the recession..... Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 16.2 to at 3033.3. Sterling's index rose from 79.3 to 79.5 after a rise from $1.5605 to $1.5698 and from DM2.3957 to DM2.4005..... Page 24

SPORT

Cricket: England failed to reach the finals of the World Series Cup after falling two runs short of the required total against Australia A in Sydney..... Page 40

Football: Howard Kendall has been appointed manager of Notts County, the bottom club in the first division. He is their third manager this season..... Page 40

Point-to-point: Racing history will be made at Tweseldown this weekend, when betting will take place for the first time on a Sunday at a British racecourse..... Page 35

Skiing: A lack of snow threatens the world championships in Spain, but soldiers were needed to help to clear an excess of snow from the World Cup course in Kitzbühel, Austria..... Page 38

ARTS

Winners: Whoever wins the lottery, one group are sure to get prizes - Britain's architects, who are anticipating £1 billion a year..... Page 31

Something amiss: Can Harper-Collins really benefit from the £500,000 advance paid to Martin Amis? And what are the implications for his career?..... Page 32

Punks reformed: The big new album of the week comes from Siouxsie and the Banshees, once the punkiest of punk bands, now showing remarkable traits of late-flowering romanticism..... Page 33

Elder statesman: "The bigger the work, the more convincing the interpretation", says Gerald Larner of Mark Elder with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra..... Page 31

FEATURES

Libby Purves: Recovering from expletives on radio..... Page 14

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Valerie Grove: "Amis Changes Publisher" has great themes: a villain, a protagonist, at least two beautiful women and a lot of testosterone..... Page 15

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TECHNOLOGY

Advanced forces: Britain's leading defence research and technology establishment is moving into civilian transport..... Page 29

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TOMORROW

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■ FUTURE FROCK
Iain R. Webb on young America's favourite fashion designer

■ REVIEWS
Marcel Berlins on a Trollope in silk briefs; Jonathan Meades in praise of Pizza Express

THE PAPERS

The alarm expressed by Belgium's Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dahaene at proposals to cut the number of languages used in the European Union is understandable
— The European

United Nations peacekeeping missions have hit hard times. It makes no sense to continue eroding the UN's credibility by asking it to do what it cannot *— New York Times*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: A new series shows how to bring a touch of country to a suburban patch. *Geoff Hamilton's Cottage Gardens* (BBC2, 8.30pm).
Review: Lynne Truss watches a tribute to Jacqueline du Pré and discovers a woman adored by the camera..... Page 39

OPINION

Scotland is different

The Opposition looked particularly weak on income taxation, the levels of which the proposed Scottish Parliament could not only raise but reduce..... Page 17

Notre Neil

Mr Kinnock has made an impressive start as the EU's new Commissioner for Transport..... Page 17

A jolly good fellow

If there is any club in this country which must extend full membership to women, it is the Oxford and Cambridge..... Page 17

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN
For those nations which did have monarchs, I think they gained something, and now it seems that it is to be lost — and, of course, once lost, lost for ever..... Page 16

BORIS PANKIN
There can be no doubt that the time of Yeltsin is gone. His Bolshevik, authoritarian reflexes proved stronger than newly acquired democratic aspirations. His destiny is fulfilled..... Page 16

PETER RIDDELL
Devolution is still predominantly an issue for the political world. It has important implications but little significance for most voters in England. Yet it is as much an English question as a Scottish and Welsh one..... Page 9

PHILIP HOWARD
Let's hear three barks for bitches. I live with at least two of them. Bitches are nicer than dogs. They yap less, do not bite (at least not while they are barking) and run away less often..... Page 16

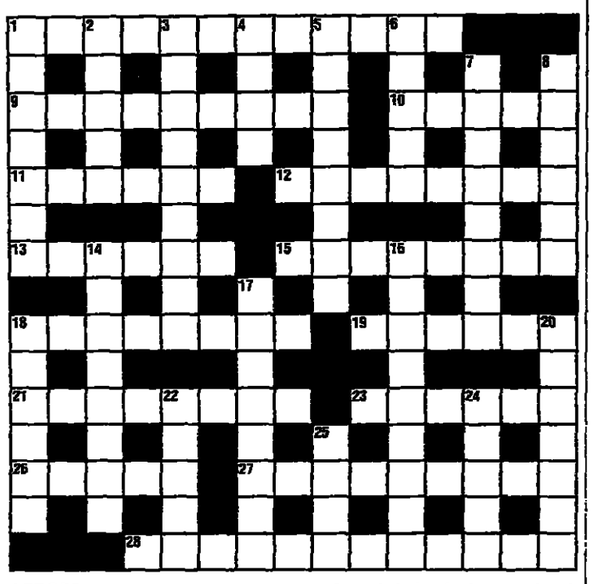
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,751



ACROSS

1 Expert finished off (12)
9 *Royal visitor to club or restaurant* (9)
10 Flower-girl bowed (5)
11 The endless fault in the economy (6)
12 Give famous dramatist's name on this (8)
13 *Weapon providing artillery support* (6)
15 Close relationship one man developed with city (8)
18 Soundness of old gold coins that you initially collected (8)
19 Compose duet with me for singing in church (2,4)
21 Order, in foreign language, a domestic product (4-4)
23 Pieces of music little boy does, possibly, in audition (6)
26 Race run by university the wrong way (5)
27 *Overwhelming innings produced by county* (5-4)
28 *Cow-girl's flower* (8,4)

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1 Judge is right in case of a swindler (7)
2 Clean outside of one piece of furniture (5)
3 Spice, we hear, ground for poet (9)
4 Cricket groundsman's surprised expression (4)
5 Way in which he is to arrive in the islands (8)
6 Messenger carried in maiden voyage (5)
7 Put up with noisy bird interrupting piece of music (8)
8 Absent partner appears in court (6)
14 Capital way in which everyone follows PM's constituents (4,4)
16 Odd choice taken before crucial game (3-6)
17 Runner so fast he's barely seen? (8)
18 Ball with leading characters in society, perhaps, present (6)
20 Girl admits boy to secret fellowship (7)
22 Person spoken to after sailor capsized in swamp (5)
24 *Sweltering in Indian interior? Wear this* (5)
25 Battle for one of the hills of Rome (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,950

H	O	U	S	E	P	R	O	U	D	■	S	P	O	T
O	■	A	■	E	■	N	■	A	■	R	■	■	■	■
D	E	M	O	R	A	L	I	S	E	■	P	R	O	A
S	■	A	■	N	■	E	■	U	■	L	■	A	■	N
■	I	S	L	E	■	N	O	N	C	O	M	P	O	S
B	■	K	■	D	■	T	■	G	■	S	■	E	■	I
A	S	S	A	I	L	E	D	■	M	E	N	T	I	S
C	■	■	■	N	■	D	■	B	■	P	■	■	■	T
K	O	P	E	C	K	■	S	E	R	A	G	L	I	O
H	■	O	■	O	■	E	■	A	■	T	■	A	■	R
A	L	T	I	M	E	T	E	R	■	I	N	N	S	■
N	■	H	■	E	■	H	■	I	■	E	■	Y	■	S
D	R	O	P	■	C	A	N	N	O	N	B	A	L	L
E	■	O	■	■	■	N	■	G	■	C	■	R	■	U
R	A	K	E	■	N	E	W	S	R	E	A	D	E	R

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by appropriate code

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Glouces, Avon, Somer	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Ster, Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Heref & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
C & Central Scotland	721
Edin, S Fife, Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
[illegible]	731
South Herts, South Bucks, Berks, Oxon	732
Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday. Highest day temp: Camborne, Cornwall 11C (52F); lowest day max: Braemar, Grampian, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire, 0.59in; highest sunshine: Manchester airport, 3hr.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.02 am
Sun sets: 4.17 pm
Moon sets 5.01 am
Moon rises 1.44 pm

Full moon January 16
London 4.17 pm to 8.01 am
Bristol 4.27 pm to 8.10 am
Edinburgh 4.07 pm to 8.35 am
Manchester 4.16 pm to 8.19 am
Penzance 4.42 pm to 9.16 am

FORECAST

☐ **General:** *England and Wales will have a mainly cloudy day, though brighter spells may develop in the east. Apart from a few spots of rain in the north and west, it should be dry.*

Northern Ireland will be mostly cloudy, with a little drizzle blowing in the wind, especially in the west.

Western and northern Scotland will have a cloudy day with occasional rain or drizzle and hill fog, while the east will be mainly dry.

It will become mild generally. Gales will develop in the north west.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Channel Is:** mostly dry, some bright spells. Wind west or southwest, light or moderate. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Cent S, Cent N, E, SW England, Midlands:** *mainly dry, with some* bright spells. Wind southwest, *mainly moderate.* Max 10C (50F).

☐ **S & N Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man:** cloudy, some coastal drizzle. Wind southwest, moderate or fresh. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** *mainly dry with some bright* spells. Wind southwest, moderate or fresh. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** cloudy, occasional rain, hill fog. Wind southwest, fresh or strong, locally gale later. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, drizzle. Wind southwest, fresh becoming gale. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** mild with rain spreading from northwest tomorrow. Brighter on Sunday before rain returns.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.5	0.05	3	37	sn	Lauchers	5.8	-	3	37	s
Anglesey	2.8	0.03	7	45	r	Liverpool	6.7	0.15	4	39	s
Aspatria	5.8	0.05	3	37	s	London	6.7	0.06	5	41	s
Aviemore	0.3	0.01	2	36	sn	Lowestoft	4.4	0.21	4	39	sl
Belfast	1.6	0.03	5	41	sn	Manchester	7.6	0.23	5	41	s
Birmingham	5.8	0.10	4	39	r	Margate	X	0.11	4	39	s
Bognor R	6.2	0.05	5	41	s	Minehead	1.7	0.03	8	46	b
Boarmem'th	1.9	0.08	7	45	b	Morecambe	6.4	0.08	4	39	s
Bristol	3.2	0.02	8	46	sh	Newcastle	6.2	-	4	39	s
Buxton	7.0	0.59	1	34	s	Newquay	0.3	0.02	9	48	c
Cardiff	0.4	0.04	7	45	r	Norwich	3.0	0.35	3	37	sn
Clacton	6.6	0.26	4	39	s	Nottingham	7.3	0.13	4	39	s
Cromer	0.8	0.23	4	39	s	Oxford	4.1	0.07	5	41	b
Doncaster	7.4	0.13	4	39	s	Penzance	0.2	0.10	11	52	r
Eastbourne	6.3	0.07	5	41	s	Plymouth	3.7	-	8	46	b
Edinburgh	3.9	-	4	39	s	Poole	2.3	-	7	45	b
Eskdalemuir	6.7	-	2	36	s	Prestatyn	X	0.09	5	41	s
Exmouth	1.9	0.03	8	46	c	Scarboro'	4.6	0.15	3	37	sn
Falmouth	X	0.04	9	48	c	Scilly Isles	1.8	0.07	10	50	sh
Fishguard	2.2	0.06	6	43	b	Shrewsbury	5.6	0.24	4	39	s
Folkestone	7.4	0.08	5	41	s	Southend	0.8	0.06	X	X	s
Glasgow	3.9	0.02	4	39	s	Southport	7.5	0.13	5	41	s
Guernsey	0.4	0.02	11	52	b	Stornoway	1.5	0.09	3	37	sn
Hastings	6.2	0.05	5	41	s	Swanage	2.7	-	7	45	s
Hove	3.5	0.11	5	41	s	Tolpmouth	4.7	-	10	50	b
Hunstanton	6.5	-	6	43	s	Tenby	-	0.09	7	45	b
Jersey	1.8	0.11	10	50	r	Torquay	4.4	0.02	10	50	b
Kinloss	0.1	-	3	37	c	Tynemouth	5.8	0.01	3	37	s
Leeds	7.4	0.14	5	41	s	Weymouth	2.3	0.01	7	45	b
Lerwick	1.1	0.04	3	37	h						

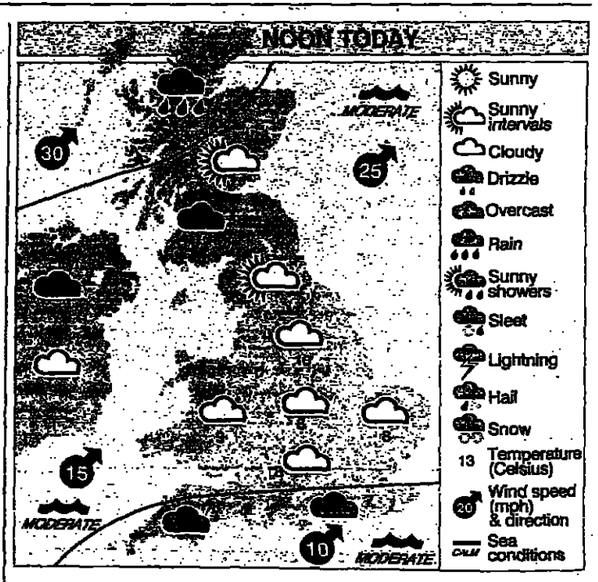
These are Tuesday's figures

ABROAD

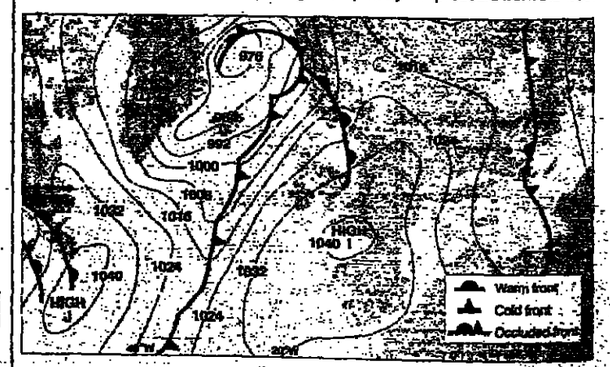
Ajaccio	11	52	c	C'phagn	-1	30	c	Majorca	10	50	d
Alicante	17	63	f	Corfu	12	54	r	Malaga	19	66	s
Alex'dria	17	63	s	Dublin	2	36	f	Malta	12	54	r
Algiers	16	61	c	Dubrovnik	5	41	s	Melb'rne	20	68	s
Amst'dm	3	37	c	Faro	19	66	s	Mexico C	20	68	s
Athens	15	59	s	Florence	10	50	s	Miami	23	73	c
Bahrain	21	70	s	Frankfurt	3	37	c	Milan	9	48	s
Bangkok	33	91	s	Funchal	18	64	c	Montreal	-21	-6	s
Barbados	28	79	r	Geneva	1	34	sn	Moscow	-5	23	sn
Barcelona	12	54	s	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Munich	0	32	sn
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	-4	25	sn	Nairobi	24	75	c
Belgrade	2	36	f	Hong K	19	66	s	Naples	8	46	f
Berlin	0	32	c	Innsbruck	-1	30	f	N Delhi	14	57	s
Bermuda	19	66	s	Istanbul	12	54	f	N York	-1	30	c
Biarritz	6	43	f	Jeddah	31	88	s	Nice	8	46	s
Borde'x	6	43	f	Jo'burg	18	64	f	Oslo	-1	24	s
Brussels	4	39	r	L Palmas	19	66	c	Paris	5	41	c
Budapest	2	36	f	Le Toquet	6	43	f	Peking	2	36	s
B Aires	25	77	s	Lisbon	15	59	s	Perth	37	99	s
Cairo	17	63	f	Locarno	6	43	c	Prague	-1	30	f
Cape Tn	26	79	s	L Angels	15	59	r	Reykjavik	3	37	c
Chicago	1	34	fg	Luxembg	2	36	s	Rhodes	16	61	f
Ch'church	19	66	-	Lyser	18	64	f	Rio de J	28	82	f
Cologne	3	37	s	Madrid	-12	54	s	Riyadh	27	81	s
								Rome	12	54	f
								Salzburg	1	34	c
								S F'isco	12	54	c
								Santiago	24	75	f
								S Paulo	27	81	f
								Seoul	1	34	f
								Sing'por	31	88	s
								Stockhm	-3	28	c
								Strasb'g	3	37	r
								Sydney	28	79	s
								Tangier	16	61	f
								Tel Aviv	16	61	s
								Tenerife	19	66	s
								Tokyo	10	50	s
								Toronto	-9	16	sn
								Tunis	12	54	r
								Valencia	17	63	s
								Vanc'ver	8	46	f
								Venice	10	50	s
								Vienna	2	36	c
								Warsaw	0	32	sn
								Wash'ton	3	37	r
								Wel'ngton	17	63	s
								Zurich	0	32	sn

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: high I will drift south and decline a little; high J will move northeast before being swamped by low pressure from the west



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11:23	6.08	11:45	6.14	Leith	–	–	0:19	4.82
Aberdeen	11:15	3.87	11:36	3.85	Liverpool	8:55	7.82	9:16	7.90
Avonmouth	4:23	10.81	4:56	11.06	Lowestoft	6:54	2.23	7:21	2.34
Belfast	8:35	3.10	9:04	2.97	Margate	9:20	4.03	9:49	4.15
Cardiff	4:06	9.93	4:34	10.03	Milford Haven	3:44	5.61	4:09	5.75
Devonport	2:59	4.80	3:28	4.59	Newquay	2:30	5.35	2:54	5.39
Dover	8:44	5.60	9:14	5.74	Oban	3:15	3.18	3:57	3.36
Dublin	9:33	3.69	9:49	3.53	Penzance	2:21	4.55	2:40	4.57
Falmouth	2:18	4.33	2:38	4.18	Portland	3:32	1.52	4:02	1.42
Glasgow	10:06	4.03	10:53	3.89	Portsmouth	8:48	4.16	9:28	4.10
Harwich	9:18	3.33	9:47	3.47	Shoreham	8:33	5.17	9:10	5.20
Holyhead	8:13	4.84	8:36	4.78	Southampton	8:25	4.04	9:02	3.98
Hull	3:40	8.04	4:15	8.34	Swansea	3:48	7.78	4:17	7.94
Ilfracombe	3:28	7.38	3:51	7.58	Tees	0:58	4.33	1:36	4.47
King's Lynn	3:55	5.24	4:19	5.39	Wilton-on-Nov	9:25	3.35	9:48	3.34

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The outlook in Bermuda is heavenly.
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INFOTECH 28, 29

Defence hi-tech could upgrade civilian cars



ARTS 31-33

Britain's architects prepare to build on their lottery windfall



SPORT 34-40

Coming to terms with change in life of O'Reilly

SEEKING CASH FOR THE COSTIN
Page 25

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook FRIDAY JANUARY 13 1995

British Gas may enter UK electricity market

BY MELVYN MARCKUS
CITY EDITOR

BRITISH GAS is considering entering the UK electricity market, effectively turning the tables on the *RECs which are intent on capturing* a major share of the gas supply business.

News that diversification is under consideration was confirmed by *Richard Giordano*, chairman of British Gas, and Cedric Brown, the chief executive, in an interview with *The Times*. Mr Giordano emphasised that *British Gas has no* intentions of mounting a takeover bid for one or more of the RECs — expected to undergo major consolidation in the wake of Trafalgar *House's offer for Northern Electric*.

Mr Giordano said that a Trafalgar House-style bid for a REC "would not be practical." He described the administration advantages of combining gas and electricity supply as "obvious". In his words: "The RECs have taken advantage of this the other way *round." Both executives emphasised* that no decision has yet been taken. According to Mr Giordano: "Electricity is another highly regulated business. There is an instinct that *we should stay out of it." Similarly* Mr Brown spoke of the "pros and cons" of such diversification. Mr Giordano declared: "There are major issues to consider, not least how the regulators will deal with a number of cross subsidies between gas and electricity trading."

Peter Spring, an analyst with Henderson Crosthwaite, *the stockbroker*, said that it would be "very logical" for British Gas to enter the electricity arena.

The domestic electricity market is not due to be opened up until April 1, 1998 but concern is mounting that Offer, the regulatory authority spearheaded by Professor Stephen Littlechild, will run behind schedule in ensuring that the *RECs* carry out the required investment.

Speculation is now mounting that Professor Littlechild will soon give *the green light to the RECs*, permitting them to increase their interests in electricity generation from the current 15 per cent.

The Treasury, concerned about *the impact of such measures on the* Government's £4 billion sale of its 40 per cent stakes in National Power and PowerGen, *is understood to be* opposed to Offer's plans.

Offer's timetable, not for the first time, appears to be rushed. A consultation paper was not put out until December 8. Offer's haste to change the rules appears to relate to the timing of the pathfinder prospectus. This raises the question of *whether the rules will be altered* without reference to Parliament.

The fear within the Treasury is that the prospect of the RECs using their local captive markets to create *vertically integrated monopolies* could serve to dampen demand for the National Power/PowerGen sale.

In the hot seats, page 25

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3033.2	(–18.2)
Yield	4.25%	
FT-SE A All share	1506.95	(–6.20)
Nikkei	19410.01	(–138.46)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3853.62	(–8.41)*
S&P Composite	400.67	(–1.00)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	95²⁄₃₂*	(96⅛)
Yield	7.88%*	(7.85%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	100⅞	(100²⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5720*	(1.5500)
London:		
$	1.5727	(1.5577)
DM	2.4007	(2.3928)
FFr	8.3070	(8.2810)
SFr	2.0117	(2.0071)
Yen	155.39	(155.66)
£ Index	79.5	(79.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5263*	(1.5360)
FFr	5.2830*	(5.3045)
SFr	1.2797*	(1.2880)
Yen	98.75*	(100.04)
$ Index	62.8	(63.1)

Tokyo close Yen 99.80

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Mar) $16.25 ($16.30)

GOLD

London close $381.05 ($376.05)

* denotes midday trading price

Sainsbury seeks to buy Texas for £250m

BY NEIL BENNETT, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

J SAINSBURY, Britain's *leading supermarket group*, is in talks with Ladbroke to buy Texas Homecare in a *move that would make it the* country's largest do-it-yourself retailer.

Reports in the City suggest that Sainsbury is in advanced talks with *Ladbroke over the* acquisition of Texas for an estimated £250 *million. Ladbroke has long made no secret* of its desire to sell Texas to cut its high borrowings, and Sainsbury is keen to expand its successful chain of *Homebase stores*.

A merger of Texas, the country's second-largest do-it-yourself chain with 238 stores, and Homebase would create a business with annual sales of more than £1 billion. The combined group would be *larger than B&Q, the existing* market leader owned by Kingfisher. Sainsbury would be expected to rename the Texas stores and introduce its Homebase retailing format, which has proved more profitable.

*Both companies refused yes*terday to comment on the talks. "There is nothing to *report at present*. All releases are being handled by *Ladbroke*," said a Texas spokeswoman. But City brokers expressed delight that *Ladbroke might be able to sell* Texas to concentrate on its gaming and hotels divisions, and surprise that Sainsbury would be prepared to take on *the risk of merging the Texas* stores into its own chain. "If Ladbroke get more than £150 *million in the deal, its share*holders will be doing cartwheels," said one leading leisure analyst.

Texas has struggled in a *bitter price war* with B&Q since the recession. In 1993 it reported sales of £692 million *but profits of only £7.8 million*. Analysts forecast that it will make only about £8 million *this year and might not recover* fully until the end of the decade under its existing ownership.

If Sainsbury's acquisition *goes ahead, the group will* have to rationalise Texas's chain, which is not highly *regarded in the industry, and* its high stock levels.

Sainsbury has achieved considerable success with Homebase, which last year reported sales of £279 million. Instead of competing on price, Homebase concentrates on service and Sainsbury has used its supermarket experience to design brighter stores than its competitors, with stronger stock control. Homebase has also benefited from the Laura Ashley furnishing concessions within many of its stores.

The City has been waiting for *further rationalisation* within the do-it-yourself retailing industry because of the *low profits that many of the* chains have been making. Do It All, jointly owned by Boots and WH Smith, has been another notable casualty, and last year announced it was closing many of its stores in an effort to improve profits.

A Homebase/Texas chain would own more than 10 million square feet of retailing space. An acquisition by Sainsbury would follow its *strategy of diversifying away* from its core food retailing business in Britain. Last November it bought a 16.7 per cent stake in Giant, an American food retailer based in Washington, for £211 million.

Market report, page 24
Pennington, page 25

ADRIAN BROOKS



Break-up: Dieter Bock announced that Lonrho's hotel operations were being repackaged for possible flotation

Bock wants Lonrho to focus on minerals core

BY CARL MORTISHED

DIETER BOCK, the new chief executive of Lonrho, wants to turn the trading conglomerate into a world-class minerals group and has plans to float off the hotels division and African trading companies.

Lonrho's hotels business, a 7,000-room operation including the UK-based Metropole hotels, is being repackaged into a single company and Mr Bock said yesterday that flotation is one of the options being considered. The assets, which also include the Princess chain in the US and Caribbean and African hotels in Kenya, Ghana, Mauritius and Mozambique have a book value of *£607 million and made profits* last year of £26 million.

The possible break-up of the vast trading group put together by Lonrho's former boss, Tiny Rowland, was announced as the company reported a sharp rise in operating profit from £129 million to £165 million although pre-tax profits fell from £165 million to £112 *million. Profits in the previous* year including an £87 million gain from asset sales.

Announcing a 19 per cent rise in the dividend to 4.75p, Mr Bock said: "After two years in London, I have to say there are no skeletons in the cupboard." He said he had no plans to buy Mr Rowland's 6 per cent stake in the company.

Lonrho generated profits of £72 million from mining in the *year to September 30 including* its remaining 43 per cent share in Ashanti Goldfields, floated off last summer. Lonrho plans to expand its mining interest and has entered into a joint venture with Gencor to seek out new prospects Russia and Central Asia.

Profits from general trading fell from £26 million to £19 million, mainly due to losses *of £5 million from manufac*turing and at Sunley Turriff, the construction business. Lonrho is considering a flotation of a package of its African trading businesses which could show profits of up to £20 million depending on what is included in the sale.

The acquisition of Agipcoal in South Africa boosted coal mining profits at Duiker Exploration by £6 million to £13 *million while profits from* agriculture rose from £19 million to £33 million.

Tempus, page 24

Soros fund stakes power shares

BY ERIC REGULY

THE best indication yet that the entire electricity sector *faces upheaval* emerged yesterday when a fund controlled by George Soros, the Hungarian-American billionaire, said it had bought stakes in Northern *Electric* and "several" other electricity companies.

The Quantum Partners fund, based in the Dutch Antilles, also suggested that it may take an active role in influencing the outcome of any takeover battles. It said it has "*expressed its willingness to* work with management or potential acquirers to enhance shareholder value in the sector".

Mr Soros's fund bought 1.49 million Northern shares, or 1.33 per cent of the company, between December 21 and January 11 and paid prices *ranging from 995p to 1006p*. Northern shares closed yesterday at 997p, down 3p, meaning the fund has made no return on the investment yet.

But Mr Soros, *the man who* took on the Bank of England during the currency crisis in 1992, is known as a high-stakes gambler with good *instincts*. Trafalgar House's hostile bid for the company is worth between £10.48 and £10.77 per share, for a total of about £1.2 billion, and could *increase* dramatically if shareholders reject the bid or a white knight appears.

Electricity shares, on the other hand, could plummet if the Office of Fair Trading refers Trafalgar's bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The bid would lapse before the MMC hands down its decision. Analysts said there is a 50/50 chance of a referral on "public interest" grounds.

The fund was forced to reveal its Northern stake because the company is the subject of a takeover. It does not have to reveal the size of its other electricity investments unless they go beyond 3 per cent.

Bifu angry as cuts are confirmed

BY ROBERT MILLER

UNION leaders representing *staff in National Westmin*ster's retail division reacted angrily yesterday as the bank confirmed that it is to seek further job cuts.

Dai Davies, assistant general secretary of the independent NatWest Staff Asso*ciation, said: "Over the last five* years, the bank has shed 20,000 jobs at a consistent rate of 4,000 a year. This has already placed an intolerable burden on remaining staff."

Peter Haines, negotiating officer of Bifu, the banking, *insurance and finance union*, said that NatWest was expected to announce pre-tax profits of more than £1.5 billion next month. He added: "We want to give customers a better service, not just more profits for shareholders."

NatWest said: "We have an idea of our future staffing needs, but it is not something that we are prepared to discuss." It is understood, how*ever, that the bank wants a* similar fall in staff numbers to that of last year.

Some 50,000 bank staff yesterday received an internal memo outlining a new approach to job cuts. The "Packages 1995 — Options for *Change" offers staff the* choice of taking voluntary redundancy, reducing the number of hours worked or accepting a downgrading in staff position in return for a compensation payment.

Staff who express an interest will be *sent* a 30-page glossy brochure.

Defence link

France is willing to promote further collaboration between defence manufacturers in Europe. The French want an industry-led "streamlining" of armaments producers to one or two specialists in each *main area*. Page 22

Cheer in store

The stream of upbeat Christmas trading statements from British retailers *continued yesterday as* Storehouse, Body Shop and Lloyds Chemists all reported healthy increases in sales. The only disappointment to the *Christmas cheer was a worse* than expected performance by Sears, the Selfridges to *Olympus retail company*. Page 27

Rank reduces shareholding in Xerox



Michael Gifford, left, and Leslie Fletcher, chairman, see no reason to cut Rank's stake further

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

RANK Organisation, the film and leisure combine that owns the Odeon cinemas, has tied up a long-awaited deal to cut its holding in Rank Xerox, the joint venture producing photocopiers that dates back to 1956.

Rank, which has regularly had to dampen down speculation that it plans to sell out entirely, is disposing of two *fifths of its 49 per cent holding* to Xerox, its Japanese partner.

The group will receive £620 million in cash for the shares, which will be used to cut debt *and fund expansion of its* Oasis holiday camps business and other leisure operations.

Michael Gifford, Rank's chief executive, said he could see no reason to decrease further the holding in Rank Xerox. But the stock market was upset by the terms of the deal and fears that Rank, *which has been progressively* distancing itself from the venture since its creation, was *getting too little for its stake*. The shares fell 22p to 381p.

The deal will bring in a profit of £325 million to Rank *once completed. Mr Gifford* said if his company did nothing but put the money on deposit, it would earn more cash than was received in *dividends from the shares*.

The group was announcing full-year figures that showed the effect of the emergence of the group's leisure and entertainment markets from recession in the UK and US.

Pre-tax profits, despite a £62 million charge on restructuring Rank Xerox already announced, *improved to* £284 million (£276.6 million). Earnings per share, stripping out the special charge, were 26.5p (18.5p), and a final dividend of 9p makes a total 9 per cent higher at 13.25p.

The star performer was Rank's video duplication business where volumes rose by almost half on the back of the success of releases such as *Jurassic Park, Mrs Doubtfire and The Flintstones*.

Pennington, page 23

NAP SHARE TIPS FOR 1995

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Or how about the startling advance in video compression software outfit Eidos. At one point last year the shares were 2775% up from their 1993 low!

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Dept TT1. Techinvest, 14 Herbert Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

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Siemens sees rosy future in Britain

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

SIEMENS expects the increasingly favourable economic climate in Britain to produce a "nice improvement" in its UK profits this year and maintain the high level of sales and orders, Jürgen Gehrels, chief executive, said yesterday.

He told a press conference that the UK operations, which exclude GPT, the joint venture between the German electrical and electronics company and GEC, saw orders surge 49 per cent to £1.45 billion in the year to September 30, with turnover 3.8 per cent up at £1.29 billion.

After-tax profit was around 2.1 per cent of sales. While significantly better than the previous year, it was clearly not where the company wanted to be in the medium term, Herr Gehrels said. He said a better way of measuring profitability was the return on capital, which was around 20 per cent at Siemens last year.

Although exports from UK operations dropped 6 per cent in volume terms to £206 million, Herr Gehrels noted that Siemens was Britain's 66th biggest exporter, ahead of well-known British groups, such as Hanson and GKN.

Research and development spending in the UK dipped slightly to £122.8 million, still representing 9.5 per cent of turnover. Herr Gehrels pointed out that many UK operations were effectively start-ups, which make the R&D spend disproportionately high. Total investment in the UK last year, covering capital spending, R&D and training, came to around £180 million.

In the first three months of the current business year, Herr Gehrels said that the order intake was 7 per cent higher than expected, which made him confident that his targets of 10 per cent growth or more in the main businesses could be achieved.



Parcels of profit: Securicor's Roger Wiggs, left, and Christopher Shirtcliffe, finance director, are still looking for a buyer for the Cellnet stake

France ready for closer defence industry links

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANCE has signalled its willingness to promote further collaboration between defence manufacturers in Europe, provided it is able to retain access to key technologies.

French officials have told Roger Freeman, Britain's Defence Procurement Minister, that they want an industry-led "streamlining" of European armaments producers to just one or two specialists in each main area of technology.

The French favour 50/50 joint ventures, within the framework of a state industrial strategy, rather than the outright takeovers that Mr Freeman has been keen to encourage. However, it appears that the French Government is now willing to accept job losses as the price of more cost-effective programmes and a more competitive industry.

Growing French enthusiasm for collaboration will have far-reaching consequences for Britain's defence manufacturers. British Aerospace has been talking to Matra for almost two years about merging their missile businesses, and is in talks with Giat, the French ordnance and armoured vehicles group.

GEC's Marconi subsidiary already has some joint ventures, but it has yet to secure a deal that will guarantee its crucial leadership in radar.

Leaders of Britain's defence industry fear they could be disadvantaged by deepening collaboration, in both defence and procurement, between France and Germany.

France's preference for an industry-led consolidation, directed by procurement decisions, was conveyed to Mr Freeman yesterday by Henri Conze, France's defence procurement chief. M Conze is close to Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, who has just launched a sweeping reform of procurement in France.

The talks were part of a series of discussions, initiated by Mr Freeman in November, which also involve Jörg Schönbohm, the German permanent secretary in charge of defence procurement, and Malcolm McIntosh, Britain's chief of defence procurement.

It is now clear that senior officials in France and Britain foresee a consolidation of the European armaments industry around two key programmes. The Horizon frigate programme, involving Britain, France and Italy, will place design work with the contractor best-equipped to achieve it, and common components will be bought from the lowest-cost source.

The other key programme is the pan-European transport aircraft, known as FLA, which is to be designed and built by Airbus Industrie, the European jetliner consortium.

Mr Freeman said after yesterday's discussions that the French had made a "significant" commitment to strengthen collaboration. "It is important that we work together to identify every project where we can co-operate," he said.

Securicor boosted by Cellnet

BY ERIC REGULY

SECURICOR is willing to sell its 40 per cent holding in Cellnet, the country's second-largest mobile phone network, but has received no offers, Roger Wiggs, the chief executive, said yesterday.

"If someone came along with an offer for what we think it's worth, the board would consider it," he said after the company's annual meeting.

One analyst said Securicor would eventually unload its Cellnet stake, its most valuable investment, but the only logical candidate was BT, which owns the other 60 per cent. BT would need approval from the Department of Trade and Industry to go beyond 60 per cent. Although it has not sought permission to do so, it makes no secret that its goal is 100 per cent ownership.

Cellnet continued to drive Securicor's earnings in the year to September 30. The group's pre-tax profits rose to £80.6 million (£63 million). Cellnet's pre-tax contribution was £55.9, or almost 70 per cent of the total.

Acquisitions helped to boost goup turnover by 25 per cent, to £800 million, while earnings per share increased 24 per cent to 37.5p.

Securicor's so-called managed businesses — security, parcel delivery, buiness services, finance and communications (excluding Cellnet) — reported pre-tax earnings of £24.9 million, up almost £8 million from the previous period. The final dividend rises 15 per cent to 2.6p. The shares fell 2p, to 970p.

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New leader for pension funds campaign



Robinson: invaluable

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND ROBERT MILLER

THE National Association of Pension Funds announced yesterday that Ann Robinson is to succeed Michael Elton as its Director-General. Dr Robinson, head of the Institute of Directors' policy unit, will take up her post in April.

The appointment of Dr Robinson is part of the NAPF's campaign to put pensions at the top of the political agenda for all parties and to mount an effective lobby on certain aspects of the Pensions Bill, which is before Parliament. NAPF members run pension schemes covering seven million employees, paying pensions to more than four million current pensioners and investing some £300 billion of pensions fund assets.

Ron Amy, chairman of the NAPF, said: "I am sure that Dr Robinson's political and communication skills will be a great asset to our work on the Pensions Bill. We also need to attract all-party support if we are to achieve a long-term solution that will help to ensure adequate retirement incomes for everybody."

Dr Robinson said she was greatly looking forward to the challenge of dealing closely with the key issue of pensions — both the immediate points of the Government's pension legislation and longer-term issues such as demographic change and its impact on the economic provision for old age.

She said: "Pensions are our future, everybody's future, and it is a very important issue for our time." Dr Robinson's work at the IoD was praised by Tim Melville-Ross, its Director-General.

He said: "Dr Robinson has made a major contribution to the work and influence of the IoD in the six years that she has headed the IoD policy unit and I am very sorry that she is leaving. Her advice and assistance to me since I came to the IoD have been invaluable and her wisdom and political and communication skills will be greatly missed."

Leaders of the IoD, who are widely considered to be trying to bring the institute back into the business mainstream, are searching for a policy head to fill a post that is likely to be a key part of that move.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Pensions backlash hits Lloyds Abbey

EVIDENCE of the damage wreaked by the publicity surrounding selling practices in the pensions industry emerged yesterday when Lloyds Abbey Life, the insurance and financial services group, admitted that it had contributed to the 29 per cent tumble in new business in 1994. It said sales were also hit by difficult trading conditions. Job uncertainty, higher interest rates and the volatility of the stock market were all cited as reasons for consumers' continued reluctance to commit to long-term products.

Regular premium sales at Lloyds Abbey, which is 63 per cent owned by Lloyds Bank, fell 13 per cent to £132.2 million, while single premium sales dropped 24 per cent to £490.4 million. Sales of unit trusts declined 38 per cent from £612.3 million to £377.2 million. The news knocked 15p off the shares to 321p.

NatWest unit expands

NATWEST BANCORP, the American retail subsidiary of National Westminster Bank, announced pre-tax profits for 1994 up to $326.7 million from $252.5 million. The acquisition of Central Jersey Bancorp has been approved by US regulators and shareholders and will be completed this month. The bank also acquired Citizens First Bancorp during the financial year. A $10 million restructuring charge was incurred in the first quarter. Provision for loan losses fell to $20 million against $28.4 million last time but net income fell from $96 million to $83.5 million.

Peso crisis broadens

THE fall-out from the Mexican currency crisis continued with a flight of money into the German mark, pushing the Italian lira to a record low and the French franc to a 13-month low against the German currency. The dollar continued to slide amid concern about the cost to America of its pledge to support the Mexican economy. What began as a problem with the Mexican peso is developing into wider foreign exchange volatility as traders target currencies with perceived weaknesses. The European exchange-rate mechanism yesterday started to look somewhat unstable.

Bull's revenue rises

GROUPE BULL, the struggling French computer-maker, reported a 5.8 per cent rise in revenue to Fr29.9 billion francs last year, the first increase since 1989, and said losses would be reduced to about Fr2 billion from Fr5 billion in 1993. The French Government is selling off Bull — a condition attached to EU approval of Fr11 billion in state aid to the computer maker. The Government has chosen five core shareholders who will each take at least 10 per cent of Bull. The group cut its workforce from 31,735 at the end of 1993 to 27,902 at the end last year.

Berlusconi sells chain

STANDA, the supermarket chain controlled by the outgoing Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's Fininvest company, has sold its Euromercato group of hypermarkets to the Benetton and Del Vecchio families for 971 billion lire (£385 million) to create Italy's third largest food retail group. The consortium joined forces last year to snap up GS-Autogrill, the motorway restaurant and supermarket chain. Euromercato is the largest hypermarket chain in Italy's retail sector, with a combined annual turnover of some 1,210 billion lire (£480 million).

Microgen pegs dividend

MICROGEN, the computer data management company, is holding the total dividend at 7.25p a share despite a decline in profits to £6.17 million before tax from £6.7 million in the year to October 31. The final dividend is maintained at 5.05p, payable on April 6. Earnings fell to 10p a share from 10.5p. Turnover rose to £58.8 million from £53.35 million but profits were affected by £500,000 of rationalisation costs. During the year the company invested £9 million in capital equipment and acquisitions, although borrowings remained low at £2.4 million. The company's shares rose 17p to 122p.

New truck from DAF

DAF, the Dutch lorry builder, has unveiled a new medium weight truck designed and built by Leyland Trucks in Lancashire for continental European markets. The DAF 55 series, previewed yesterday at the Brussels commercial vehicle show, is the fruit of a £25 million development programme at Leyland and confirms the status of the British company, rescued from the Leyland DAF receivership by its managers 18 months ago, as DAF's supplier of light and medium weight trucks. British-built trucks account for a third of the vehicles sold by DAF.

NCRS sale called off

GENERAL Motors, the US manufacturer, said the proposed sale of National Car Rental System, its Minneapolis car rental chain, to a group led by Vestar Equity Partners, had been aborted, reportedly because of a disagreement over price. Talks are believed to have been held with at least one other buyer but GM may ultimately decide to retain the business, which in 1994 earned record profits on revenues of $1 billion. In the fourth quarter of 1992, GM took a $744 million charge against earnings to recognise past losses and write off goodwill. The company broke even in 1993.

Black closes division

PETER Black, the supplier of consumer goods, is to close its footwear and accessories division at a cost of £4 million. The slipper and casual footwear factory at Keighley, Yorkshire, has been hit by low-priced imports. The business broke even at the operating level on sales of just under £8 million in the year to June 4, but trading has deteriorated in the current year and losses are expected. The closure was announced as the company reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £8.35 million (£7.2 million) in the half year to December 3. The interim dividend is 1.26p (1.12p), to be paid on April 30.

Bayer plans to expand

BAYER, one of Germany's big three chemicals groups, has unveiled expansion plans which call for $13 billion to be spent on research and capital investment by 1997 (Colin Narbrough writes). Manfred Schneider, the management board chairman, told a news conference in New York that Bayer, which last year paid SmithKline Beecham $1 billion for the over-the-counter business of Sterling Winthrop, would go on the take-over trail to strengthen its global position. The group's medium-term aim was to boost world turnover to more than $32 billion from the current $28 billion.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.13	1.98
Austria Sch	17.84	16.24
Belgium Fr	52.38	48.08
Canada $	2.309	2.149
Cyprus Cyp£	0.776	0.721
Denmark Kr	10.04	9.24
Finland Mkk	8.01	7.31
France Fr	8.78	8.06
Germany Dm	2.55	2.34
Greece Dr	393.00	368.00
Hong Kong $	12.75	11.75
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.96
Italy Lira	2635.00	2480.00
Japan Yen	169.50	153.50
Malta	0.815	0.560
Netherlds Gld	2.835	2.605
Norway Kr	11.08	10.28
Portugal Esc	257.50	239.00
S Africa Rd	nil	6.25
Spain Pta	215.00	201.00
Sweden Kr	13.28	11.48
Switzerland Fr	2.14	1.96
Turkey Lira	misc	55974.0
USA $	1.656	1.525

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity
The Skin Cancer Research Fund
The Commissioners propose to make a scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference NOT-284569 A/1 CDLdn. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity
The De Souza Trust for Graduate Students
The Charity Commissioners have made a scheme for this charity. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number DGY. 412571 LAG/Ldn.
Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL COURT OF GOVERNORS of the Corporation will be held on board H.Q.S. Wellington, The Embankment, London WC2 at 3.15pm on Thursday 15th June 1995 to receive the Annual Report of the Committee of Management, to elect Officers for the ensuing year and to transact such other business as may be necessary.
Notice is also given that COURTS OF GOVERNORS, if required will be held at 2.25pm on the following dates in 1995: Tuesday 17th January at the Royal Naval College Greenwich, Wednesday 19th April, Tuesday 18th July and Wednesday 18th October at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3.
Corinna O'Halloran
General Secretary
29 King William Walk
Greenwich SE10 9HX

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 27 TRUSTEE ACT 1925
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925 that any person having a claim against or an interest in the Retirement plc Pension Scheme is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to Hazell Sims & Partners, 75 Sutton Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2AF and send such particulars no later than two months from the date hereof after which date the Trustees of the Scheme will distribute the funds among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which notice has been received and will not, in respect of the funds so distributed, be liable to any person of whose claim notice shall not have been received.

LEGAL NOTICES

JCA LTD
In Administrative Receivership
Registered number 2647291
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8DO Sloy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA on 27 January 1995 at 10.30 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that they may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at 8DO Sloy Hayward 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on 26 January 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
IP F Copp
Joint Administrative Receiver

UNIFORM CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at St. Paul's House, Warwick Lane London EC4P 4BN at 10.30am on Monday, 30th January 1995 for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the administrators receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.

Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to us at the address shown above, not later than 12.00 hours on Friday, 27th January 1995, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and (b) there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
DAVID ROLPH and
ROGER CORK
Joint Administrative Receivers

SFL LIMITED
(FORMERLY SCOPE FOR VISION LIMITED)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN at 12.00 hours on 24th January 1995 for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the administrative receivers under section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Only creditors are only entitled to vote if (a) they have delivered to me at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on 23rd January 1995 written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and (b) there has been lodged with me any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Date 9.1.95
M R DORRINGTON
Administrative receiver

Company Number 2022990SSR
The Insolvency Act 1986
Eastcheap Agents Limited
Registered Office
Two Minster Court
Mincing Lane
London
EC3R 7PL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on 12th January 1995 at 12.45 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Smith & Williamson, 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on the two business days prior to the meeting of creditors between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.
Dated this 5th day of January 1995
G P Nash BA FCA
Director

Company Number 00843665
The Insolvency Act 1986
Chiltern Underwriting Agents Limited
Registered Office
Two Minster Court
Mincing Lane
London
EC3R 7PL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on 12th January 1995 at 12.15 pm for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Smith & Williamson, 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on the two business days prior to the meeting of creditors between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.
Dated this 5th day of January 1995
R G Sharp FCA
Director

Company Number 01315508
The Insolvency Act 1986
Castle Syndicate Management Limited
Registered Office
Two Minster Court
Mincing Lane
London
EC3R 7PL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on 12th January 1995 at 11.15 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Smith & Williamson, 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on the two business days prior to the meeting of creditors between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.
Dated this 5th day of January 1995
R G Sharp FCA
Director

Company Number 00843665
The Insolvency Act 1986
Chiltern Underwriting Agents Limited
Registered Office
Two Minster Court
Mincing Lane
London
EC3R 7PL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on 12th January 1995 at 12.15 pm for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Smith & Williamson, 1 Riding House Street, London W1A 5AS on the two business days prior to the meeting of creditors between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.
Dated this 5th day of January 1995
R G Sharp FCA
Director

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Savoy players make quick-change exits and entrances

BY JON ASHWORTH

SAATCHI fever is spreading. Word of the walkouts on Charlotte Street has reached the urbane riverside surroundings of the Savoy Hotel, where Rowland Leigh has resigned as finance director and company secretary to pursue fresh interests.

He follows Giles Shepard, who stepped down in September after 15 years as managing director, in the wake of a hard-fought battle with Forte, the hotels and catering group.

Mr Leigh was a relative newcomer to the Savoy, founded by Richard D'Oyly Carte, the theatre impresario, more than a century ago. He was appointed company secretary by Mr Shepard in March 1988, and became finance director as well in November 1989.

His position will be temporarily filled by Martin Radcliffe, who is rapidly making a name for himself as the Savoy's Mr Fixit. He was made acting managing director in the gap between Mr Shepard's departure and the arrival of Ramon Pajares — "Pyjamas" to his detractors — who spent 24 years as general manager of the Four Seasons hotel in London. Mr Radcliffe will tend the abacus in the company secretary's office until a permanent replacement is found.

The nightly shenanigans of She Loves Me at the Savoy Theatre have nothing on the drama unfolding in the Savoy boardroom.

Mr Shepard resigned from his £150,000 a year post in the autumn after peace broke out between Forte and the Savoy's old guard. He had been strongly opposed to closer links with Forte, which controls 68 per cent of the equity but only 42 per cent of the votes.

Sir Rocco Forte won a place on a three-man "chairman's committee" charged with plotting a course for the Savoy Group, whose interests include Claridge's, the Berkeley, the Connaught, and Simpson's-in-the-Strand.

Mr Pajares arrived as managing director in November.

Sir Anthony Tuke retired as chairman this week in favour of Sir Ewen Fergusson, chairman of Coutts Bank and a former ambassador to South Africa.

Sir Anthony Tennant, who stepped into the hot seat at Guinness in the wake of the DTI enquiry in 1987, was also appointed a director.

Mr Shepard has not been resting on his laurels. He has taken a non-executive directorship with Guinness Mahon, the merchant bank, and is said to be in the market for further appointments.

☐ Ladbroke swaggers away from Texas ☐ Xerox deal eases the debt burden ☐ Riding the rollercoaster in emerging markets

Sainsbury's DIY deal

☐ UNLESS it is a case of extreme wishful thinking on the part of hard-pressed Ladbroke shareholders, there are strong signs that Sainsbury is on the point of relieving the group of its ill-fated Texas Homecare chain. If so, it will be the best news for the betting and hotels group since it finally admitted it was not a property company 18 months ago.

Ladbroke has been desperate to find a way out of Texas for years. The reasons why the group ever thought it could be a DIY retailer are lost in the past and Cyril Stein's memory.

Texas trundled along happily during the housing boom of the Eighties when the British public wanted all the electric drills and simulation brass soapdishes they could lay their hands on. But as soon as the market become competitive, it become clear it was woefully equipped to fight a price war against B&Q, its larger and more efficient competitor.

One of the truisms of management textbooks is that there is no winner in a competition to be the lowest cost producer in any market. If there is a winner in the price battles of the DIY market, it is certainly not Texas. Last year, the company generated a profit margin of barely 1 per cent on its £692 million turnover. Profits in early years had only been supported by rebates from suppliers, but this had in turn led to grotesque overstocking of all the wrong kinds of goods. The group tried to address this last year by setting aside a stock provision of £20.6 million, but this alone is unlikely to encourage DIY enthusiasts to queue at Texas's door.

Texas is not alone in its misery. Do It All has been suffering at least as badly. Great Mills, a subsidiary of RMC, has the good fortune to have its figures submerged in a division, but judging by the emptiness of its car parks it cannot be doing much better.

In an industry where price competition has taken such a toll, rationalisation is inevitable. But the only attempt at it so far was the ill-fated merger of Do It All and Payless by Boots and WH Smith. So the market is likely to be extremely wary of any acquisition by Sainsbury.

Sainsbury has its reasons, of course. The group has applied the skills of running a foodstore to selling screws and nails. As a result, the presentation and stock control at Homebase is years ahead of the competition, a service that its customers pay a premium for on everything they buy, as its results demonstrate. In the last half year, Homebase registered an operating margin of more than 7.4 per cent, higher than even B&Q.

The vexed question is whether Sainsbury could replicate its success with Homebase on a business almost three times its size. But Sainsbury likes being a market leader. The market may have its doubts, nor will it be too pleased at the pace of Sainsbury's investment in its other businesses, just as it seemed that food retailing could become an attractive cash cow.

Changing ranks

☐ THE Rank deal to lighten its holding in Xerox, which seems to have taken the market quite unawares, is easy to understand once one appreciates the difference between earnings per share, an artificial measurement in this context, and cash flow that exists in the real world.

First, the specifics. Rank is



selling 40 per cent of its existing holding in Rank Xerox while simultaneously tidying up its relationship with majority-owned A Kershaw. Rank will end with 29.4 per cent of the votes but just 20 per cent of profits, because of the structure of its existing arrangement with Xerox of Japan. The deal would appear to value the whole of Rank's holding in Rank Xerox at just £1.5 billion, against some market hopes of £2 billion, which goes some way to explaining yesterday's sharp share price fall. Some observers were also unhappy with the 12 times' earnings in the joint venture Rank is paying. But Rank is raising its net proceeds because no capital gains tax will be payable on the disposal. Both the parties insist no further lightening of Rank's holding is planned, and it can be assumed, given the difficulty Xerox would have in funding further purchases, that that state of affairs will continue for some time. Furthermore, a massive inflow of funds into Rank from the sale of the total holding would only have accentuated the company's appeal to predators.

Rank, which has laboured under a savage debt burden since it overpaid for Mecca in 1990, has swapped a spectacularly successful investment that is not now bringing in returns commensurate with the amount of capital tied up in it for a large chunk of cash that will mean Michael Gifford no longer has to worry about borrowings. On a pro forma basis, the deal would have depressed Rank's 1994 earnings per share by 5 to 10 per cent. But it will in addition mean Rank has £620 million, minus the £55 million to clean up Kershaw, to invest on replacing dividends of just £25 million earned on the Rank Xerox shares being sold, with a consequent improvement in cash flows. The only question must be whether Rank can repeat the tax dodge next time it is allowed to lighten its holding.

Caught in the Mexican wave

☐ THE great appeal of investing in booming but volatile emerging markets has been their diversity. Each year, some are likely to feature among both top and bottom performing world stock markets. In 1994, for instance, Mexico was in the dumps while Peru rode high. But the underlying growth in emerging economies should keep investors, if protected by a wide spread, ahead of the average mature market. Hence the appeal of emerging markets trusts.

In the short term, Mexico has undermined this happy scenario. The domino effect is looming large. The Mexican wave flooring Latin American stock markets — and the markets for many more secondary currencies — is far from over. Yesterday, Argentina's central bank reduced banks' reserve requirements to and liquidity. But its real defence is allowing the dollar to take over from the reformed Argentine peso — in bank reserves or people's savings — to demonstrate the sanctity of its one-for-one parity.

Even across the world in Turkey, which went through a similar stock market boom and bust, officials were lining up yesterday to reassure investors that there would be no repeat of Mexico in Anatolia. Turkey's protection is that the hot money it lost in its own crash has not returned, so cannot flee.

And that, perhaps, is the difference. Equity investment helps strengthen a developing economy in the long run. Mexico was living off American hot money attracted by high interest rates. Once the dust has settled, investors must distinguish.

Unconvinced

☐ THE heroic piece of deregulation allowing smaller companies to skip statutory accounts may fall foul of market forces. Accountants Hacker Young polled bankers at its seminars on the reforms and found that four out of five would still insist on audited accounts for all but minor lending. Worse still — save, naturally, for auditors — nearly all would sniff at non-audited statements, even for existing clients.

TSB profits leap as bad debts recede

BY NEIL BENNETT, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

TSB GROUP has recorded its first half a billion-pound profit after a sharp fall in provisions on the bad debts it amassed during the recession.

The bank saw its pre-tax profits leap 67 per cent to a record £504 million in the year to October 31. Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, said the figures were really good news for the bank. "Our innate strengths can serve us well and take us forward in a very competitive industry."

Bad debt provisions fell almost half from £335 million to £173 million. Underlying profits edged ahead only £10 million to £703 million, and the contribution from the main retail bank and Hill Samuel, the merchant banking subsidiary, both fell. The group is still paying a final dividend of 5.48p, payable on April 3, making 9.02p for the year, up 17.5 per cent.

During the year, the group's capital rose 11 per cent to £1.9 billion, making TSB one of the most strongly financed banks in Britain. Despite this, Sir Nicholas effectively ruled out making a bid for a building society, by saying that most building societies want to remain independent to expand their own businesses. TSB has been tipped as a potential buyer after Lloyds Bank's bid for Cheltenham & Gloucester.

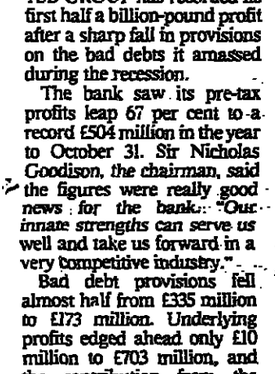
During the year, TSB encouraged all its customers to move their savings out of old-fashioned low-interest rate accounts into more attractive deposit accounts. This cost the bank £100 million in lost income, even though total deposits rose £800 million to £15.7 billion. The fall was mainly responsible for the £16 million fall in the retail bank's profits to £436 million during the year.

Despite the lost income, Peter Ellwood, the chief executive, welcomed the shift. "We have removed a historic vulnerability by offering only a leading group of products," he said. The bank would continue to offer competitive products and services to attract more business. It won a record 300,000 new customers during the year. TSB's mortgage book expanded at four times the average industry rate.

However, Sir Nicholas confirmed that TSB planned to close 200 of its branches during the current year, compared with 90 in 1994. But the group's redundancy programme was slowing down and fewer than 1,000 staff would lose their jobs this year. Since 1989, TSB has reduced its payroll by 8,500, or more than a quarter.

Tempus, page 24

Hazlewood sells fish business



HAZLEWOOD Foods, the food manufacturer, is raising £59 million from the sale of its shellfish business to a consortium led by CVC Capital Partners, including members of its management team.

The proceeds will cut borrowings by £59 million, but pre-tax profits will be affected by an exceptional charge of £48 million arising from the sale.

In the year to March 31, the shellfish business made operating profits of £10.8 million. Hazlewood, where Peter Barr, above, is chairman, said the sale, which needs shareholder approval, is part of its policy of selling bulk-based activities in favour of more profitable areas. Tempus, page 24

Weir Group shares fall as jobs go

BY MARTIN BARROW
CITY NEWS EDITOR

SHARES in Weir Group fell to 251p from 293p after the engineering company said it would take a £7 million charge against the reorganisation of its pump manufacturing activities. A total of 420 jobs will be lost as a result of the restructuring although the net redundancy figure could be reduced to 330 as a result of redeployment.

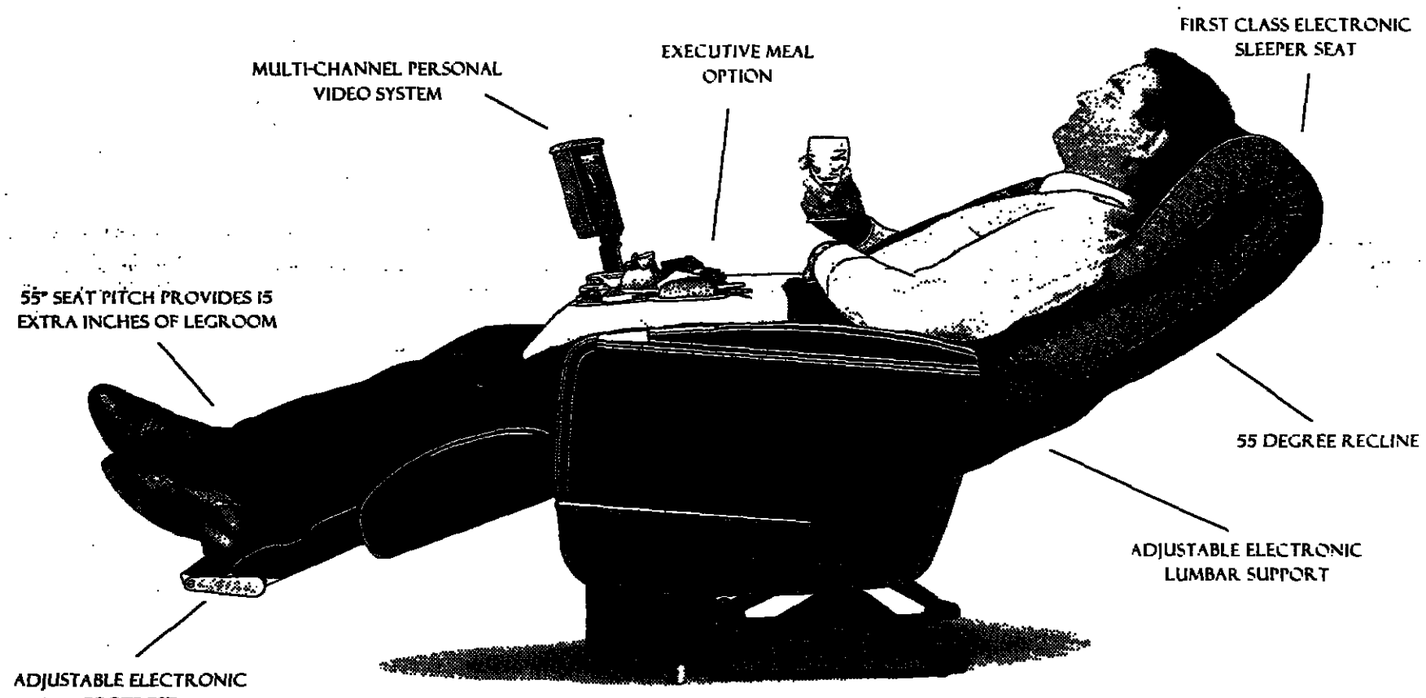
The changes follow the $210 million acquisition of Envirotech, a US group, last August and involves the closure of a plant in Sacramento as well as cutbacks in Manchester.

The company also gave warning that trading had shown little improvement, in spite of widespread reports of economic recovery in its main markets in the UK, US, Canada, South Africa and Australia.

"Trading conditions generally continue to follow the dull pattern reported at the time of the group's interim results and it is disappointing to be unable to report improvement in such key areas as the demand for spare parts," said Sir Ronald Garrick, chief executive. However, order input for the last quarter of 1994 showed some signs of improvement.

Sir Ronald said the reorganisation would improve efficiency through reduction in costs and the better utilisation of facilities.

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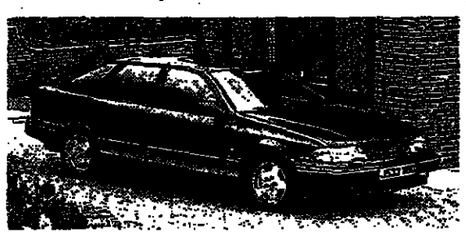


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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Shares slip on worries of fallout from peso rescue

EVENTS on Wall Street continued to hold centre stage after President Clinton's vow to support Mexico after the collapse of the peso.

As a result, share prices in London were left to extend this week's losses, prompted by a futures related sell-off. Investors are clearly worried that the strain imposed on the dollar by the effort of underpinning the peso could push up US interest rates and result in a potentially damaging sell-off on Wall Street of equities and US Treasury bonds.

As a result, the FT-SE 100 Index saw an early lead of almost 11 points steadily whittled away before a shaky opening for shares in New York, only to close near the bottom, with the index ending 16.2 lower at 3,033.2. A total of 594 million shares were traded.

Meanwhile, **J. Sainsbury**, Britain's biggest supermarket chain, is poised to spend £250 million snapping up Texas Homecare, the DIY chain, from **Ladbroke**.

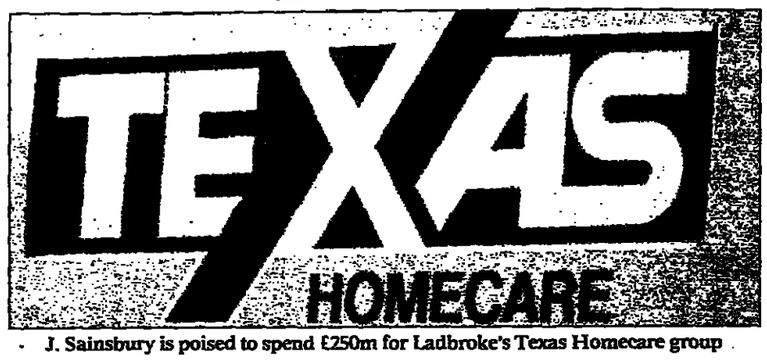
That was the talk among the chattering classes in the Square Mile yesterday as speculation intensified that a deal may be imminent. Such a move by Sainsbury, which already owns the Homebase chain of DIY stores, would raise the number of outlets it controls to 315.

The Ladbroke share price touched 170p on the failure of the deal to materialise, before rallying to end the day all-square at 174p. Sainsbury ended 1½p easier at 414p after going ex-dividend.

Early attention was focused on **Rank Organisation**, with the price tumbling 22p to 381p after it announced plans to dispose of 40 per cent of its stake in Rank Xerox to Xerox Corporation, its partner, for £620 million. The sale will be completed towards the end of March and should realise a profit for Rank of £325 million. The proceeds will be used to reduce debt and provide capital to re-invest in its core business.

The news was accompanied by full-year figures from Rank showing pre-tax profits 37 per cent higher at £376.6 million. Shareholders were rewarded with a 9 per cent increase in the dividend to 13.25p.

Meanwhile, Rank is also proposing to buy the minority interest in **A Kershaw**, amounting to 13.8 per cent of the issued equity. Kershaw leapt 368p on the news to £12.63.



J. Sainsbury is poised to spend £250m for Ladbroke's Texas Homecare group

Investors pawed over the latest clutch of trading statements from leading stores groups in an attempt to establish a true picture of conditions on the high street. Most of them issued fairly upbeat statements reporting higher sales over the Christmas period although, judging by the failure of their share prices to respond, brokers are still worried about the pressure on margins.

Storehouse *slipped 1p to* 221p after reporting a 5.5 per cent rise in sales with profits and gross margins both ahead of 1993. **Body Shop** firmed 2p to 189p after talking about a late spurt in Christmas trading with margins stable. **Lloyds Chemists** were boosted by an early flu epidemic which lifted sales in the first six months to December, by almost 20 per cent to £550 million. The shares rose 5p to 304p. **Sears** dropped 5p to 101p with the market expressing disappointment at its second half sales performance, which saw a near 3 per cent decline at Freemans, its mail order operation. Margins also came under pressure.

Owen & Robinson was a heavy faller among the retailers, dropping 7p to 20p after warning that it would be plunging into the red by the end of the year. The group has forecast pre-tax losses of £1.4 million against a profit last time of £111,000 after a disappointing performance by its jewelry division during the run-up to Christmas.

Lower provisions for bad and doubtful debts enabled **TSB Group** to boost full year pre-tax profits 67 per cent to £504 million. Provisions dropped from £335 million to £173 million, while at the operating level growth was a meagre 1 per cent due to intense competition. The group says it intends to keep dividend growth above the rate of inflation. The market seemed unimpressed and the share price finished 7p cheaper at 219p.

Lonrho's Tiny Rowland signed off his final year as chief executive with an impressive performance which saw pre-tax profits grow almost 50 per cent to £165 million.

The shares finished 2½p better at 158½p, cheered by some optimistic comments about the future from the Tiny's successor, Dieter Bock. He confirmed plans to lump together the leisure and hotel interests before floating them off separately.

Shares of **Weir Group** tumbled 49p to 244p after it announced plans to axe 420 jobs, close its US operation in Sacramento and reorganise its Manchester pump plant.

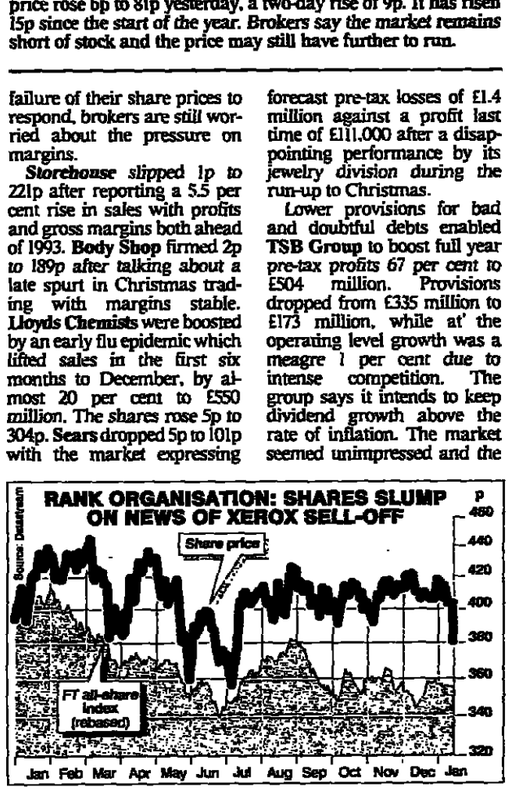
☐ **GILT EDGED:** Gilts made headway in thin trading on the back of another firm performance by German bunds and at the expense of US Treasury bonds. But demand was lacklustre, with investors not prepared to commit themselves ahead of today's expected announcement from the Bank of England about the next auction. The Bank is expected to issue a further £2 billion of Treasury 8 per cent 2000.

In the futures pit, the March series of the Long Gilt touched £101$^{3}/_{32}$ before ending the session five ticks firmer at £100⅞, with a modest 41,500 contracts completed.

In longs Treasury 9 per cent 2012 climbed £¼ to £103¾, while at the shorter end Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was three ticks better at £102$^{15}/_{16}$.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Gold shares strengthened on Wall Street in the face of nervousness over currency markets, but most other shares were lower, leaving the Dow Jones industrial average 8.41 points down at 3,853.62 at midday.

The new year has got off to a prosperous start for holders of Northern Leisure, the nightclubs and bowling alleys group. The price rose 6p to 81p yesterday, a two-day rise of 9p. It has risen 15p since the start of the year. Brokers say the market remains short of stock and the price may still have further to run.



MARKET INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3853.62 (-8.41)
S&P Composite 400.67 (-1.00)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 19410.01 (-138.46)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 7418.05 (+25.30)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 410.42 (+1.31)

Sydney:
AO 1661.9 (+2.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2071.27 (+10.22)

Singapore:
Straits 2102.36 (-43.33)

Brussels:
General 7139.69 (-39.63)

Paris:
CAC-40 1844.06 (-5.07)

Zurich:
SEA Gen 645.00 (-1.00)

London:

FT 30	2339.4 (-12.0)
FT 100	3033.2 (-16.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	3471.0 (-5.6)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1308.65 (-6.31)
FT A All-Share	1506.95 (-6.20)
FT Non Financials	1638.29 (-7.21)
FT Gold Mines	222.5 (+6.0)
FT Fixed Interest	109.16 (-0.09)
FT Govt Secs	90.75 (+0.15)
Bargains	19770
SEAQ Volume	594.3m
USM (Datastrm)	148.82 (-0.55)
US$	1.5698 (+0.0093)
German Mark	2.4005 (+0.0048)
Exchange Index	79.5 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
Ecu	1.2609
SDR	1.0685
RPI	145.3 Nov (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Asset Mngmnt Inv (100)	99	...
BSkyB	250	+4½
British Assets Gwth	62½	...
Caledonian Media Wts	5½	...
Clydeport	167	–1
First Russ Front ($10)	585	–5
Fleming Nat Res (100)	91	...
For & Col Emrg C (100)	92	– ½
Gart Micro Uts (500)	508	...
Hill Hire	102	...
Hydro Intl (80)	84	...
Innovative Techs (120)	123	...
Investors Capital	87½	...
Invstrs Cap Inc An	36½	...
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Lazard Birla Ida	53¾	– ½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	31½	– ½
Leg & Gen Rec (100)	95	–1
MICE Group (3)	3¼	...
Mthsn Lloyds Inv (100)	85	...
Pentex Oil	105	...
RM (175)	206	...
Residential Prop	103	...
SeaPerfect (120)	131	+1
TeleWest Coms (182)	173½	+4½
Wellington Under (100)	102	...
Woodchester Units	125	...

RIGHTS

Hewitt n/p (68)	30	–1
Powell Duffryn n/p (440)	64	...
Trio n/p (25)	¼	...
Verity n/p (71½)	¾	...
Walker Green n/p (90)	7	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Broken Hill 945p (+16p)
Br Aerospace 442p (+10p)
Utd Friendly 490p (+10p)

FALLS:
Racal Elect 219p (-8p)
Tadpole Tech 353p (-10p)
Weir 251p (-42p)
Cadbury-Schw 413p (-10p)
Lloyds Abbey 321p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 26

TEMPUS

Looking into Bock's books

THE big debate on Lonrho is what happens when the Tiny factor is finally removed from the share price. The company's new boss has been happy to ride a share price shockwave caused by the departure of the man of Africa and yesterday Mr Bock gave some encouragement to those analysts who estimate Lonrho's break-up value to be 200p.

To value Lonrho on a break-up is a defensive posture and shows the management's nervousness that an opportunist might snatch the company before the shares have fully recovered: hence the proposed flotation of the hotels and the trading companies. The hotels were valued at a thumping £600 million, we are told by Lonrho, and the trading businesses, which make between £12-20 million, depending on the package sold, could no doubt be worth another £200 million.

All this is useful but not the answer to the real question: what is Lonrho worth as a trading business? Valuing assets, especially hotels, is a mugs'game, as Queens Moat shareholders found to their cost. Lonrho has got its timing right with occupancy rates and room yields climbing in the UK, but hotels are businesses — not properties — and will be valued on their cash flow, suggesting a price well below £600 million.

Investors also want to know more about group cash flow which is still negative after high capital expenditure. If all the hints and hopes about flotations and disposals turn into realities, Mr Bock, in a year or two, will be heading up a mining and investment group with substantial cash in the bank. By then, the commodities rally will have turned into a slide and Lonrho, with its close chum Gencor, the South African miner, could well be fishing for cheap mining interests.

The scenario is plausible and even attractive. Unfortunately, the market still sees Lonrho as an asset play, a strategy that will keep the price moving for a short period but will pall as memories of Mr Rowland dim. To keep the rally going requires more evidence of earnings.

TSB Group

AFTER five years of losses and restructuring, TSB's bottom line is finally fulfilling its potential. To some extent, the recovery was inevitable. Bad debt provisions were bound to fall at some stage, no matter how poor TSB's credit quality procedures were in the late Eighties.

But the fact that almost all of the improvement in last year's profits came from a fall in provisions masks the substantial changes at TSB. The group has shed a quarter of its staff, sold off almost all of its commercial activities and reduced the scope and size of Hill Samuel.

Now that it is finally earning a respectable 17 per cent on capital, the hard work begins of finding the extra income to keep driving earnings higher. TSB is sandwiched in a highly competitive market. It shows little inclination to indulge in another acquisitive spree after its previous disastrous attempt, so somehow must attract a greater share of the financial services market.

It has made an important start by switching customers into higher deposit accounts, an exercise that cost £100 million in lower interest income last year. This was effectively the most expensive marketing initiative in banking history, with TSB intent on winning the hearts and minds of its seven million customers.

Value for money policies have worked well for other high street retailers and TSB's initiative is already attracting a higher share of the mortgage and savings market. But the group's high cost base still puts it at a disadvantage in any price battle against the building societies.

The fall in the share price yesterday suggests that the market does not fancy TSB's chances of grabbing market share. They are unlikely to shine until the group can show it can expand its business as well as it has cleaned it up.



Hazlewood

SELLING seashells is probably best done on the seashore and Hazlewood has wisely decided to rid itself of the potential liabilities in running a business that faces massive costs to meet EU rules. Hazlewood now has to make up a quarter of the group's profits and boost cashflow from the ragbag of food businesses into which it has pumped more than £200 million — almost the market cap of the company — over five years. Supermarket wars have left Hazlewood operating on half the margins of a year ago and profits are likely to turn out a flattish £34 million this year and the next. The shares have responded and are trading at a multiple of just over 10 times 1996 earnings, while yielding a heady 8 per cent. However, the payout is thinly covered, gearing is still high and other food companies, such as Hillsdown, are trading on similar yields. Investors will also note that Albert Fisher, offering a premium yield of 10 per cent, is still exposed to the perils of shellfish.

Securicor

THE tail is wagging the dog with slightly less vigour at Securicor. The group, to its credit, has driven its security and parcels businesses so hard that the proportion of the profits contributed by its minority stake in Cellnet has fallen 4 percentage points to 69 per cent. That is not a modest feat, particularly in parcels, where the disasters that have befallen companies such as Lynx attest to the competition in the industry.

It must still frustrate Securicor's management that it has so much of its assets and cashflow locked in a minority venture. It accounts for an absurdly high dividend cover of more than 11 times. Securicor's success with Cellnet cannot be faulted, but shareholders deserve to share in it. If Rank can reduce its holding in Rank Xerox, then Securicor one day must be able to find a way of releasing the cash tied up in Cellnet.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1010-1009	May	1055-1052
May	1009-1004	Jul	1055-1050
Jul	1016-1015	Sep	1075-1072
Sep	1025-1024	Dec	1091-1090
Dec	1035-1034		
Mar	1046-1045		Volume: 8051

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2715-2710	Sep	2710-2705
Mar	2730-2720	Nov	2715-2705
May	2711-2710	Jan	2730-2710
Jul	2700-2700		Volume: 3732

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	371.0-70.0
Spot: 419.00		Dec	366.4-64.0
Mar	418.5-17.4	Mar	362.3-58.5
May	415.0-14.5	May	362.2-58.5
Aug	402.5-02.0		Volume: 741

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 11

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	77.73	116.11	121.16
+/-	-2.99	-3.16	-0.12
Engl/Wales	77.73	116.41	120.63
+/-	-2.99	-2.70	-0.11
Pig	+13.0	+4.0	+22.0
Scotland	unq	115.29	123.80
+/-		-4.56	-0.50
Pig		+37.0	+36.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.45	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Feb)	16.55	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Mar)	16.25	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	17.65	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	17.55	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 161 (+1)	O: 163 (+1)	
Gasoil EEC	145 (n/c)	146 (n/c)	
Non EEC 1H Feb	145 (n/c)	146 (n/c)	
Non EEC 1H Mar	147 (-1)	148 (+1)	
3.5 Fuel Oil	111 (+1)	112 (n/c)	
Naphtha	159 (+1)	161 (n/c)	

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jan	140.00 EXP	Apr	145.75-46.25
Feb	142.50-42.75	May	146.25-46.50
Mar	144.75-45.00		Vol: 29003

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	16.56-16.58	May	16.16-16.19
Mar	16.28-16.29	Jun	16.14-16.17
Apr	16.18-16.19		Vol: 49445

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	107.60	Jan	103.75
Mar	108.40	Mar	105.50
May	110.35	May	107.25
Jul	112.15	Sep	95.90
Sep	97.55	Nov	97.90
	Volume: 364		Volume: 0

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	297.5	295.0
May	312.5	318.5
Jun	unq	unq
		Volume: 332

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/lb)
Feb 113.75-11.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $/ton)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 95	2105	2055	2110
Feb 95	2110	2070	2113
Mar 95	2101	2055	2101
Apr 95	2065	2030	2065
Vol: 464 lots		Open interest: 3699	
		Index 2038 +19	

(Official) (Volume prev day) — **LONDON METAL EXCHANGE** — **Rudolf Wolff**

	Cash: 3013.5-3014.5	3mth: 3014.5-30.15.0	Vol: 1858500
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)			
Lead ($/tonne)	859.50-859.00	871.50-872.00	135550
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1139.0-1139.0	1160.0-1161.0	325775
Tin ($/tonne)	6040.0-6050.0	6130.0-6135.0	23430
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	2009.0-2010.0	2038.0-2039.0	1320250
Nickel ($/tonne)	9510.0-9520.0	9680.0-9685.0	201172

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Calls Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom	500	34	47½	56½	0	8	13½
(*534)	550	1	18	28	17	27	35½
Argyll	260	6½	17	24	2	8	15
(*265½)	280	0	8	17	15	19	26½
ASDA	60	6½	8	10	0	1	2½
(*66½)	70	0½	3	5	4½	6	8
Boots	460	28	42	49	0	9½	14
(*467½)	500	1	17½	26½	33½	33½	35
Br Airways	360	25½	37½	45½	0	8½	15
(*383)	390	2½	20	29	9	21	29½
BP	390	25½	35½	43	0	6½	12½
(*415)	420	2½	17	25½	7½	18½	25½
Br Steel	140	6½	13	16½	1	4½	7
(*146½)	160	0	4	7½	13½	15½	17½
C & W	330	29½	40	47½	0	6	11½
(*359)	360	5	21½	29½	6	17½	24
CU	490	16½	29	—	1	21	—
(*507½)	540	0	9½	—	35½	54½	—
ICI	750	17	38½	51½	3½	28½	34½
(*765½)	800	0	15½	28	35	59½	64
Kingfisher	420	9	28½	34	3	14½	25½
(*429½)	460	0	10½	16½	33½	39½	50
Land Sec	550	27	41½	49	0	8	17½
(*576)	600	0½	14	21½	24	30	44½
M & S	360	26	35½	41	0	4	8½
(*385½)	390	2	16	22½	6½	13	21
Nat West	460	21	33½	44½	0	15½	24
(*480)	500	1	13½	26	20	42	46½
Sainsbury	390	24½	36½	43	0½	7½	15½
(*414)	420	1½	16½	26	10	20	29½
Shell	700	7	34	34	5	36	39½
(*701)	750	0	6½	15½	49	62½	64½
Smkl Bch	420	40	48½	56½	0	6	12½
(*459½)	460	6	23	33½	6	21	28
Storehse	220	4	13	18½	2½	7½	13½
(*221½)	240	0	5½	9½	18½	20	25
Trafalgar	70	2	7	9	1½	5	5
(*71)	80	0	3	5	9	11	11
Unilever	1150	25	55½	73	3	32½	44½
(*1170½)	1200	2	31	49	30½	60½	71½
Zeneca	950	34½	53½	68	0½	23½	33
(*883)	900	3½	25	43	18½	49½	58½

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	260	26½	39	44½	2	7½	14
(*381½)	390	8½	21½	28	14	20	27
Ladbroke	160	15½	19	23½	1½	6½	9
(*173½)	180	3½	7½	13½	10	16½	19
Utd Biscs	300	20½	26½	31½	2½	15	15
(*316½)	330	4	10½	17	16½	30	32

	Calls Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	475	10	27½	—	2	12½	—
(*482½)	500	1	15	22½	18	25	31½
Thames W	460	20½	36	44½	1	9	21½
(*479)	500	1	14½	23½	21½	28½	43

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	420	33½	42	47	2½	13½	22
(*449½)	460	9	19	26½	17½	34	43
BTR	300	10½	16	22½	0	15½	18½
(*303½)	330	1	5½	10½	27	36	37½
Br Aero	409	37½	48½	—	3½	15	—
(*441½)	448	13	26½	—	18	32½	—
Br Telcm	700	15½	28	35½	49	10	16½
(*401½)	420	2	12½	19½	20½	25½	32
Cadbury	390	25½	33	39½	2½	10½	14
(*413)	420	8½	16	24	13	26½	28½
Guinness	420	19½	28	34½	5½	13½	18
(*432½)	460	2½	9½	16½	29	38½	41½
GEC	280	17	25½	29½	2½	9½	10
(*293½)	300	4½	13½	18½	10	13½	19½
Hansen	220	19	22	25	1	4½	7½
(*227)	240	5	10	14½	7½	12½	16½
LASMO	130	11½	16	19	1½	4	6
(*139½)	140	5	10½	13½	4½	9½	10
Lonrho	160	16½	22	27	1½	6	8½
(*194)	200	5	11	16½	9½	15½	18
Pilkington	140	20½	24½	27	0½	1½	3½
(*159½)	160	5½	11	15	9½	7½	11
Prudential	300	15½	21½	27	4	14	18
(*310)	330	4	9	14	21½	33	35½
Reuland	420	28	46½	52½	3½	14	23
(*454)	460	11	22	30	15	35	41
R-Royce	160	9	14½	17½	3	8	10½
(*168)	180	1½	5½	9	15½	20½	22½
Tesco	220	19	25	26½	1½	6½	9½
(*230½)	240	5½	12½	15½	8½	15	16
Vodafone	300	10½	17½	22½	4	8½	12
(*305)	217	3	—	—	13½	—	—
Williams	300	30½	37	40	1	6	8½
(*323½)	330	8½	16½	21½	9½	19	21½

FT-SE INDEX (*3034)

2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150

Calls	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Jan	137½	91	50	19½	5	1	
Feb	165½	126	88½	58	35½	19½	
Mar	181	144	110	79½	57	38½	
Apr	209½	166	137	107½	85½	64	
Jun	221	—	161½	—	111	—	
Puts							
Jan	2	5	13½	36	75	125	
Feb	17½	28½	44	65	92½	120	
Mar	35½	47½	64½	85½	114½	147½	
Apr	57	72½	92	113	141½	173½	
Jun	71	—	109	—	159	—	

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Abbey Nat	420	30½	35	39½	33	49½	53½
(*427)	460	9	18	27½	65½	69½	73½
Arlington	155	6½	14	—	5	9	—
(*158)	180	0½	4	—	25	25	—
Barclays	550	45½	57½	63	11	18½	27½
(*583½)	600	16½	29	38½	36	44	52½
Blue Circ	280	15	21	26½	19½	19½	24
(*281½)	300	6	12½	18	22½	32	36
Br Gas	300	16½	25	31	6½	14½	17
(*307)	330	4	10½	13½	24	32½	35
Dixons	180	20½	25	29½	3	7	11
(*198)	200	7½	13	19	11	15½	21
Forte	260	13	19	22	7	15½	16
(*263½)	280	4½	10	14½	19	25	25½
Hillsdown	160	19	21½	23½	1	5½	7½
(*176½)	180	6	9½	12½	8	15½	17½
Lonrho	140	19½	24	26	2½	6½	7
(*158½)	160	6	13	15	10½	13	15½
Smith	100	6	9½	9½	3	6½	7½
(*101½)	112	2	4½	6½	9½	11½	12½
Thrn Em	1000	54½	81	92½	4½	21	27½
(*1030½)	1050	23	52	62½	35½	47	64½
Tomkins	220	15	22½	26	5	9	14
(*226)	240	5½	13	18½	15½	19½	24½
TSB	220	9½	15½	20½	10	14½	16½
(*222½)	240	2½	8	12½	24½	27½	29
Wellcome	650	49	66½	91	20½	32½	42½
(*670)	700	23½	42½	56½	47	58½	68

	Series	Jun	Apr	Jul	Feb	May	Jul
Royal Ins	260	19	25	29½	4	12½	16
(*273)	280	9	15	20	13	23½	25½

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	300	14½	18	21	2½	6½	7½
(*309½)	110	9	13	16½	7	11½	12½

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Eastern Gp	750	21	50	64½	22½	38	53
(*757½)	800	6½	28½	42½	56	67½	82½

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	37½	45½	54½	6½	16	21
(*469½)	500	15	26	33½	34	39½	40½
Scot Pwr	330	16	28	33½	14½	20½	27
(*339½)	360	5	16	20½	33½	38½	45

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3078.0	3083.0	3035.0	3045.0	12457
Previous open interest: 58854	Jun 95	3087.0	3087.0	3056.0	3056.0	363
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3470.0	3470.0	3462.0	3460.0	65
Previous open interest: 3965	Jun 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	92.93	92.95	92.86	92.89	28644
Previous open interest: 408748	Jun 95	92.22	92.23	92.15	92.19	16830
	Sep 95	91.70	91.71	91.65	91.66	5909
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.13	0
Previous open interest: 2146	Jun 95				92.38	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.64	94.65	94.61	94.63	39280
Previous open interest: 668543	Jun 95	94.16	94.20	94.14	94.18	39632
Long Gilt	Mar 95	100-28	101-03	100-14	100-28	41787
Previous open interest: 93077	Jun 95				101-02	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.57	108.57	108.36	108.55	3653
	Jun 95	107.65	107.78	107.65	107.81	50
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	89.10	89.43	89.05	89.31	139759
Previous open interest: 197204	Jun 95	88.63	88.82	88.54	88.74	749
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.38	93.41	93.33	93.34	1488
Previous open interest: 20706	Jun 95	92.89	92.90	92.84	92.84	775
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	95.70	95.75	95.62	95.66	7693
Previous open interest: 37095	Jun 95	95.37	95.38	95.32	95.35	805
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	98.40	98.40	99.71	98.02	34389
Previous open interest: 48329	Jun 95				97.17	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates Clearing Banks 6% Finance Hse 6½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 4 Week fixed: 5⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅝ ; 3 mth 6⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅛ ; 3 mth: 6 .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅝-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	7⅛-7
Interbank:	5⅝-5½	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	7⅛-7
Overnight: open 5⅛, close 4 .					
Local Authority Depo:	5⅛	n/a	6⅛	6⅛	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	5⅛-5	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	7⅛-7
Dollar CDs:	5.72	n/a	6.18	6.68	7.44
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	7⅛-7

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 30, 1994 Agreed rates Jan 25, 1995 to Feb 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.71 %. Reference rate Dec 1, 1994 to Dec 30, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 6.402 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY RATES (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-5	5⅝-5⅜	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	5⅛-4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3⅝	4⅝-4⅜	5⅛-4⅞	5⅛-5	5⅛-4⅞
French Franc:	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅝-5⅜	6⅛-6	6-5
Swiss Franc:	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅝-5⅜	6⅛-6	4⅛-3⅞
Yen:	2-1⅞

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Banking on a win

CHRIS WRIGHT, the Chrysalis group chairman recently persuaded to amend his eccentric hairstyle, walked out on finance-raising talks with a bevy of bankers in New York last night, informing them he just had to watch a basketball game. Pledging to be back later, the music mogul, dashed to catch a flight back to England. It may have left his US bankers wondering whether Wright, 50, was starting to crack up. That would be a misreading. The real purpose of his sudden departure was to be at the NEC in Birmingham tonight to watch the Sheffield Sharks, his own basketball team, play (he says beat) the Thames Valley Tigers in the finals of the 7-Up trophy. Not bad going for the Sharks' first season.

Pig cycle

JURGEN GEHRELS, chief executive of Siemens UK and chairman of the German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce, confides to me that the semiconductors business reminds him of the *Schweinezyklus*, or pig cycle. Even though his company is investing heavily in semiconductor capacity, he points out that farmers all seem to decide to raise pigs at the same time, only to discover that the market has collapsed by the time they are ready for market.



"It mends the holes in your clothes"

Bad form

DIETER BOCK seems to have taken over the talent for courting controversy from Tiny Rowland, at least with the German press, who understandably regard Bock as one of their own. It appears that the nose of the lady correspondent of *Handelsblatt* in London was put badly out of joint when Bock refused her an interview on the grounds that it would be bad form prior to Lonrho's results. Unfortunately, Bock had earlier promised an exclusive with *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, which duly went ahead. To add insult to injury, the invitation to Lonrho's press conference went to a male colleague of the rebuffed *Handelsblatt* correspondent, causing the fur to fly at yesterday's Suffolk Street briefing.

Top advice

MORGAN STANLEY was top adviser on cross-border deals in Europe last year, up from fourth place, according to *Acquisitions Monthly*, prompting Philip Healy, its editor, to ask whether the US investment bank needed to bother with the ill-fated plan to merge with SG Warburg. In the latter's defence, he observes that Warburg at least kept the UK's end up by moving up from sixth to third position.

MIKE ABRAHAMS, responsible for monitoring and investigations at the Personal Investment Authority, is leaving for life on the other side of the fence at Barclays Financial Services. He becomes deputy compliance officer, with special responsibility for Barclays Life, which, I recall, was last year publicly reprimanded by the Securities and Investments Board.

COLIN NARBROUGH

Cedric Brown and Richard Giordano talk about pay, jobs, prices and leaks

The hottest seats in British business

The top team at British Gas know all about pressure. They spoke to Melvyn Marckus

MARC ASPLAND



Cedric Brown, left, and Richard Giordano insist that the changes must continue if the company is to stand the test of competition

Richard Giordano, chairman of British Gas, and chief executive Cedric *Brown*, preside over a £13 billion utility which, in recent weeks, has suffered an unprecedented barrage of adverse publicity.

The fuse was lit last November when Mr Brown's 75 per cent salary increase from £270,000 to £475,000 *hit the headlines of quality and* tabloid newspapers alike. Reports that showroom staff were to be axed and salaries cut, followed. More recently came the "safety scare": based on a leaked memorandum indicating that British Gas plans to *cut its annual spend on gas leak* checks from £9 million to £1 million.

As the headlines cascaded, *The Times* requested an interview with the *industrial duo at the receiving* end. The essential message emanating yesterday from the chairman's office on the 14th floor of Rivermill House, the company's London HQ overlooking the Thames, is that change must go on if British Gas is to flourish in a competitive environment. Much of the publicity is perceived as ill-founded, based on incomplete facts, but the damage to *the company's image* is acknowledged. In Giordano's words: "There has clearly been damage. I do not believe that it will prove permanent."

The interview, with those destined to lead British Gas into the new era of domestic competition, was wide ranging and unrestricted.

Diversification into electricity distribution is under consideration at *British Gas although there are no* plans to mount a takeover bid for one of the RECs. According to Giordano, a bid for a REC would be *impractical but* "the administration advantages are obvious", which the RECs (rival gas distributors) "have taken advantage of". He adds: "*This, of course, represents another* regulated business. There is an instinct that perhaps we should stay out of it." Brown concurs: "We are *considering the possibilities. There* are pros and cons."

Do you think you underestimated *the political sensitivity that sur*rounds British Gas? I asked Giordano, mindful of the recent publicity. "I was taken by surprise by the degree of animosity out there. So many who were so quick to assume that British Gas was doing the wrong thing. That surprised me. The company has a superb safety record, a superb service record. I think that has been acknowledged. *To suddenly find that questioned* did surprise me."

Q: So the attack on safety cutbacks was unfounded?

Giordano: "We have spent hundreds of millions of pounds to get cast iron pipe out of the system."

Brown interjects: "Billions, billions."

Giordano continues: "We have replaced the cast iron pipe with polyethylene in order to improve the safety performance and remove the need for constant inspection. So an internal memo that says our on-line *inspection can be reduced from* £9 million to £1 million, suddenly creates a safety hazard issue. The reality is that the £9 million and the £1 *million are tiny fractions of the* hundreds of millions spent by TransCo.

"Some mole leaks a piece of paper *which creates a brouhaha over* safety — which comes to nothing because it is not a safety problem — *and British Gas is pulled through* the mire. These things, incidentally, are described as public relations gaffes. The fact of the matter is that we probably possess 500 pieces of paper in the files, all of which, if they are released by a mole to somebody *who wants to make mischief, are* capable of mischief."

Q: What of the showroom sensation?

Giordano: "That was a classic. It related to an internal memo, dated October 17th — which was not even a decision memo — and hey presto it appears the night before the Dudley West by-election and gets reported as if it was a momentous piece of news."

Brown: "As if it was a fait accompli. Nobody has had their wages cut."

Giordano: "Nobody out there said 'Hey, *this is dated October 17th, how* come it popped up in December?' This, again, is called a PR gaffe. If I worked in the PR department I *think I would go to Cedric and say:* 'If you don't want any more of these PR gaffes, let's burn all the files.'

"I guess the point is that we have had a crystal ball, and that crystal ball told me that all of these problems stemmed from the pay decision. I wouldn't do it again, but I *don't think that's true.*"

Brown: "I was appointed chief executive in August 1992 at a salary of £270,000. There was no increase *in 1993. If, in 1994, the board had* decided that I should receive some increase, 5 per cent or whatever, that, plus the annual bonus would *become a political football. The* problem is that if you define these sorts of things, which are part of the micro-management of British Gas's re-engineering process, as banana skins, there may be another 50 banana skins ahead of us."

> 'Some mole leaks a piece of paper . . . and British Gas is pulled through the mire'

Brown: "There is a total commitment to safety within the company. We have an excellent safety record and we are determined to maintain that. *Safety cannot be a political* football."

I address Giordano and Brown at the same time. Would you, with the benefit of hindsight, have handled the pay issue differently?

Giordano: "If I were Cedric and I *have given me a total remuneration* of around £400,000 in 1994. The figure of £475,000 needs to be seen against that and the removal of other aspects of the package."

Q: Presumably you will be making these points to the Employment Select Committee?

Brown: "We will put in a written submission. If they have further questions to ask, I will answer them . . . *attempt to get across the com*plexity of what we are doing. This is not a cosy monopoly. We are subject to intense regulation — although not all our businesses are regulated — and there is a quickening of competition. We have had to separate our trading operations from transportation. Our exploration and production opeations would equate to a FT-SE company in their own right: *larger than Enterprise and Lasmo* combined. We are competing in a world market. A recent survey described British Gas as the pre*mier global gas company. That* included world class companies such as Enron, Shell and Nova Corporation of Canada. I suspect *the pay of Enron's chief executive is* close on ten times what I receive."

Giordano: "There is no consultant who would deny that Cedric Brown's job is big, complex and challenging. There are executive mercenieries. Look at the escalation *of the remuneration of finance* directors. There are chief executives who threaten to quit, ask the board to call their bluff or fork up. Are we supposed to say that because Cedric, whom I hasten to add has not acted in this way, has spent his entire life *in the gas industry, we can have him* at below the going rate."

Q: Why did you not emphasise the extent of the company's regulatory problems to the Trade and Industry Select Committee?

Giordano: "We need the Gas Bill. To cock a snoot at the Government would not have been very sensible. It is important that new entrants into the domestic market pick up their social obligations. If there was not a Gas Bill, merely a lowering of thresholds, that would be an invitation to chaos."

Q: *Are we going to see cost* reflective prices?

Giordano: "This must eventually *come about. Without cost reflective* prices we are in danger of being cherry picked and cherry picking represents a menace to the profit and loss account. Our direct debit scheme is a step towards rebalancing prices. In the end the market place creates its own rebalancing."

Q: But Clare Spottiswoode, at Ofgas, has already "fixed" aspects of *the standing charges.*

Giordano: "You are referring to the standing charge relating to the lowest end of the range. This has been made a bit more attractive for companies to service the small end of the market. There is an element of cross subsidy implied in that".

Q: Is British Gas happy to go along with that?

Brown: "Yes. It is a pragmatic recognition of the significant cross subsidies which exist. One has to smooth the way towards becoming fully cost reflective."

Q: Do you think it is fully appreciated that many consumers *will loose out as a result of* rebalancing?

Giordano: "It is not so much the prospect of higher prices but the *price differentials between custom*ers, with the latter perceived as losers. Those who do not pay by direct debit are already seen as losers, paying a net 5 per cent more than those who do."

Q: But might not prices go up by *as much as 30 per cent?*

Giordano: "I do not visualise prices going up by 30 per cent. There is nothing in the arithmetic that *suggests that.*"

Brown: "We have given our views on prices to the Government, the *MMC and Ofgas. There will be* winners and losers. Significant amounts could be involved."

Giordano: "If bills are paid on time I cannot visualise 30 per cent rises. It will be important to see what provisions the Bill contains for those who have genuine difficulties *in paying their bills.*"

Q: What of the Labour Party's views?

Brown: "I have not discovered whether they intend to tear up the Government's plans or carry on with them. The first pilot scheme for domestic gas competition starts in 1996, the second the following year. Clearly, there is an election factor."

Q: And the way forward?

Giordano: "We have said to the market that we are going to save in excess of £600 million per annum. *We told the City analysts, last* September, that one of our goals in the domestic gas business is to sustain the current level of profit*ability and cash flow. That is* imperative.

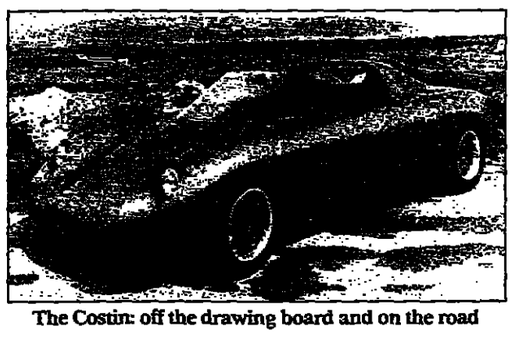
"Either we save the £600 million per annum or we close shop, because the source of that dividend is that money. So whatever we do, however we do it, we have to achieve *that. We have expressed a commit*ment to bust our bums to raise the dividend in real terms. That is still the current dividend message."

British sportscar team seeks bold co-drivers with cash

Investors rarely get the chance to put money into a new British sportscar. It is even rarer to find one that is *built — on the road, engine,* wheels and all — before the developers go cap in hand for funds. But so it is with the *Costin, a sportscar that takes* its name from one of the UK's most famous designers.

Frank Costin, an automotive engineer, made his name applying the science of aerodynamics to vehicle design. Now 74, he has enjoyed considerable success over the years designing for Lotus, Vanwall and Maserati, working with Stirling Moss, among others.

Five years ago, Mr Costin teamed up with Simon Garrett, a financial consultant, to form Costin Limited, with the *aim of developing a new mid*-engined sportscar. The prototype chassis began road-testing in 1991, and a second prototype is now on the road, powered by the award-winning Rover K series engine. Some £350,000 has been sunk into the venture. Now, the Costin is ready to roll off the production line, joining other *specialist cars, such as Mor*gan, Caterham and TVR.



The Costin: off the drawing board and on the road

The company is seeking £75,000 from investors under the Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS), successor to the Business Expansion Scheme. The plan is to build 20 cars in 1995, 50 in 1996 and 100 a year by 1997, from a basic factory in Wales. A *formal offer for* subscription is due to be launched in the next few weeks.

The project bears the characteristic stamp of Chris Parkinson, of Gouldens, the City law firm known for pioneer*ing a range of British film* issues under the BES. Mr Parkinson, who has helped to draw up the offer *document*, was executive producer of *Staggered*, the most successful BES film.

He says the EIS can provide useful funding for projects of £100,000 or less — *a zone that holds few rewards* for traditional venture capital firms.

"This is the sort of thing the EIS is good for — putting small amounts of money into entrepreneur-owned businesses to enhance working *capital,"* Mr Parkinson says. Investors in the Costin project will be invited to subscribe for a minimum of £500 each in *shares. They will benefit from* 20 per cent tax relief on their investment — offering a potential 60 per cent tax break when combined with rollover relief from previous BES investments. There is also the *prospect of tax-free capital* gains after five years.

More than 3,100 comparable cars are produced in the UK each year. The biggest seller is the TVR, with an annual output of 900 models selling for £22,000 to £29,000 each. The Caterham is next, with 700 cars priced at £14,000 *to £30,000. Some 460 Mor*gans are made each year. The Costin, at about £20,000, is designed to fit between the Caterham and TVR.

There is always the risk that no one will buy the car. This is *a high-risk investment with* no guarantees. However, the fact that the Costin has al*ready made it off the drawing* board and on to the road counts heavily in its favour.

JON ASHWORTH

BUSINESS LETTER

Why Mr Herro is a hero

From Mr Keith Hall

Sir, I bought Saatchi & Saatchi shares in 1991 for 165p and duly coughed up for the rights issue at 130p.

Billed as a fine recovery stock in 1991, I have seen a nil return in dividends and capital appreciation. As one of the legion of ignored "small shareholders", I am sick of Maurice Saatchi's whining and bleating and also the apologists who seem to regard him as some kind of lost messiah.

*Maurice Saatchi has com*pletely failed me, the shareholders and the company. Had he been a football manager he would have been sacked years ago.

Congratulations to Mr Herro, catalyst for his departure, whose robust American style contrasts vividly with City bankers, brokers and pundits who appear to have no regard for punishing failure but only massively rewarding alleged "success", most notably their own.

Good riddance Maurice Saatchi, long live Saatchi & Saatchi.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH HALL,
Horse Shoe House,
Turkey Cock Lane,
Stanway,
Colchester.

Letters to the Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112

THE TIMES
Win the trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

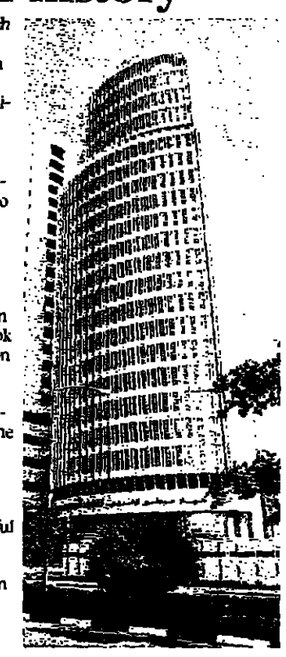
Today is day 17 of The Times Millennium 2000, which offers readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Dateline to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28-day world air cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson, Washington and Sydney. It includes *helicopter sightseeing over the Fiji Islands and hot-air ballooning* over the Arizona desert, and would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten-day stay for two in Fiji and the *Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two* tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

Should you be unsuccessful in the competition, you can *still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook* Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

The parties are the brainchild of The Millennial Foundation, a non profit-making charity which is organising fundraising parties for specific local charities across the world. In St Petersburg, for instance, the money will help restore the Hermitage gallery and fund the Kirov Ballet.

You could, for example, celebrate the new millennium in Abu Dhabi where the sun shines for 363 days of the year. The capital of the United Arab Emirates has beautiful *beaches and vast, mysterious deserts where camels roam* free. Your stay will be at the Hilton International, which offers panoramic views over the Gulf. The party will be an Arabian night of true luxury and splendour. The cost is £2,250 per person now, or £50 per month per person payable over five years.



TOKEN 17



To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which are appearing between December 26 and tomorrow, January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: *The Times* Millennium 2000 Competition, 5 Brittons Court, London EC88 6NG. Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal *Times* competition Rules apply. Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, which appeared last week, will appear again on tomorrow. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Ltd, Freepost GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

Share falls extended

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
520	380	Abbey Nat	426	- 2	4.6	14.3
314	253	Allied Irish	288	..	4.7	10.3
279½	171	Aust New Z	203	..	6.1	*
3300	2452½	Bank America	2631½	- 12½	..	..
247	172½	Bank Scotland	199½	- ½	3.4	11.1
640	497	Barclays	583	+ 7	3.6	14.3
319	246	Bk of Ireland	300	..	4.8	8.7
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2688	- 81½	..	..
265½	205	Close Bros	225	..	4.2	10.2
2152½	2121½	Commercial	2134½	+ 12½	6.2	..
1236½	1058½	Co-op Bk Non V	1196½	- 9½	0.5	..
2344½	2270½	Deutsche Bk	2290½	- 209½	2.3	..
1315½	787½	Espirito Santo	812½	- 3½	4.7	4.1
95	57	First Nat Fin	65	+ 2	2.9	*
1549½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1386½	- 3½	0.4	*
373	288	Hambros	344	- 2	7.7	15.0
1113	696½	HSBC	856½	- 9½	4.7	9.9
1133	846	HSBC Hk	847	- 8	4.7	9.4
443	395	Joseph (L)	395	- 3	5.8	11.5
692	424	Kleinwort Ben	532	- 1	4.5	9.4
680	519	Lloyds	541	+ 1	5.3	10.7
520½	472	Nat Aust Sr	514	+ 3	7.1	*
572½	421	Nat West	479	+ 3	5.1	9.3
3306	2100	Oriental Bank	2168½	..	6.6	..
79	53	Rea Bros	65	..	1.8	10.5
528	377	Rgl Bk Scotl	385	+ 1	4.5	9.3
1579	1050	Schroders	1443	- 2	1.6	13.2
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1310	..	1.6	13.0
114	75	Singer & Fried	95½	..	4.6	11.9
359½	227	Standd Chart	328	+ 3	3.1	8.9
391	197	TSB	226½	- 9½	5.2	*
1012	569	Westpac $8	951	- 9	4.2	12.1
9105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9606½	- 9½	2.8	..
260	194	Westpac	215½	..	2.5	*
398	303	Westrust	215	..	6.0	14.4

BREWERIES

1005	150	Accol Hldgs	158	- 1	..	..
619	485	Bass	514	- 6	5.1	13.0
299	248	Boddington	281	..	4.6	14.9
196	168	Burtonwood Brwf	176	..	3.6	14.7
181	143	Eldridge P 'A'	155	..	5.3	*
86	48½	Fosters Brewing	56	+ 2	3.3	*
480	342	Fuller Sm 'A'	352	..	2.6	14.6
511	399	Greenall Gpbl	458	..	3.9	20.6
284	253	Greene King	283	..	3.1	14.4
265	238	Marsh Hldgs	264	..	4.6	*
170	135	Mcaskie	150	..	3.4	13.5
3173	3135	Mob J	3150	..	1.4	16.7
246	176	Morlands 'A'	191	+ 1	2.4	14.7
314	256	Morton Thomp	306	- 4	2.5	14.9
545	440	Morland	483	..	2.5	13.9
10½	6½	Porterbrook	9	..	..	..
284	209	Regent Inns	209	+ 2	3.6	25.1
1665½	1000	SA Breweries	1446½	+ 15½	1.0	22.1
591	477	Scot & Newc	508	..	4.4	14.3
306	215	Vaux Group	237	..	5.2	13.4
645	324½	Wellbeloved Jd	620	+ 4	1.6	25.5
494	414	Whitbread 'A'	462	- 3	4.3	15.1
569	453	Wolverhampton Dr	525	..	3.3	13.8
391	148	Yates Brest	391	+ 1	2.4	15.8
535	453	Young 'A'	453	- 1	4.0	19.6

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

205	130	Ashtead	135	..	4.9	9.7
200	148	Bilcon	159	- 1	4.5	14.7
164	64½	Amec	69	..	5.4	39.8
166	47	Andrews Sykes	146	- 2	1.6	28.7
462	333	Ashtead	423	..	1.6	28.7
191	101	Balfinch	183	..	1.6	25.2
41	26	Bailey (Geo) Con	35	..	2.5	21.4
88	18½	Barcon	31	..	..	..
282	139	Barratt Devs	166	+ 1	4.5	12.9
186	139½	Beazer Homes	139	- 1	5.2	10.1
204	179	Bellhaven	182	- 2	4.6	11.2
59	31	Bellamich	34	..	..	25.9
373	326	Berkeley Gpt	341	+ 3	2.6	10.9
215	118	Bett Bros	178	..	3.2	9.5
285	215	Bovis Pnpbl	270	- 3	3.1	11.3
38	35	Brandon Hire	36	..	4.2	..
226	150	Br Bldg & Eng	150	..	6.7	9.3
197½	115	Bryant	139	..	5.3	13.4
145	105	CALA	135	..	3.3	14.6
34	31	Campbell & Arm	34½	..	..	..
52	44	Clarke T	49	..	3.2	41.6
39	29	Cookson	29½	..	..	..
105	105	Countryside	105	+ 1	5.1	*
75	73	Cred Nicholson	74	..	4.7	13.9
96	96	Crosses	96	- 1	4.4	11.6
20	17	Edmond Hldgs	18	..	2.1	..
273	273	Eva Group	273	..	2.1	11.0
89	24	Galliford	24	..	2.1	..
97	87	Gibbs & Dandy	89	..	3.4	..
103	83	Gleeson (AE)	83	..	2.1	14.3
86	71	Green (Eng)	86	..	3.8	28.3
191	171	Hanwick Eng	190	+ 2	2.6	17.4
188	138	Hawdon-Sharp	138	+ 1	2.7	16.0
144	96	Higgs & Hill	96	..	3.5	*
19	19	Howard Hldgs	19	..	5.3	17.7
6	6	Jarvis	15½	..	..	..
115	104	Keller	115	..	4.1	13.3
234	234	Laing (J)	218	..	5.2	15.7
164	90½	Laing 5.4% Cv Pf	94	..	8.5	..
165	165	Lilley Chadwick	165	..	4.9	16.9
160	122	Lovell (TC)	152	- 1	2.1	16.5
132	106	Maunders (J)	130	..	3.3	14.3
221	154	McAlpine (A)	175	+ 1	4.6	25.7
76½	59½	McCarthy & S	68	..	..	..
64	56	Morgan Sindall	62	..	3.2	..
99	94	Mowlem (J)	95	- 1	2.4	..
379½	182	Persimmon	183	..	6.9	14.5
2300	1450	Pochin	2200	..	1.8	22.0
198	119	Prowting	120	..	3.8	18.3
74	54	Raine Ind	62	..	7.2	10.3
61	45	Secure Retire	45	..	..	14.6
132	96	Redrow	96	..	3.6	9.3
97	90	Swan-Hex	90	..	1.6	28.2
280	240	Tarmac Hldgs	261	..	4.6	13.7
112	90	Sherro	108	..	4.2	15.3
265	196	Smart (J)	210	..	5.1	25.0
288	199	Spanhoe	264	..	1.1	21.6
267	191	Tay Homes	171	..	4.7	12.6
183	114	Taylor Woodrow	180	..	2.8	21.6
88	58	Tilbury Douglas	58	- 3	7.4	42.9
61	36	Torex Hirst	39	..	2.7	..
44½	39	Try Group	39	..	3.1	..
129	89	Ultrasteel	108	..	4.4	19.8
178	115	Wakefield Inv	115	..	5.3	12.4
74	49	Ward Hldgs	56	..	3.1	..
229	132	Westbury	139	..	4.9	12.6
7½	3½	Wiggins	5½	..	..	..
264	154	Wilson (C)	166	..	3.6	13.2
501	314	Wilson Bowden	317	..	3.7	14.1
249	123	Wimpey G	125	- 1	5.2	18.7

BUILDING MATERIALS

27	12	Altinkpoint	14	..	4.5	23.8
341	263	Alumasc	340	..	2.2	..
659	439	Amberley Grt	51	..	3.1	24.2
283	274	RMC Intl	308	+ 2	3.2	15.5
147	93	Baggeridge Brick	145	..	3.4	20.3
94	39	Bardon	39	+ ½	7.7	..
244	135	Beresford Int	#228	..	0.3	60.3
93	56	Blockleys	78	..	1.6	..
360	252	Blue Circle	262	..	3.8	20.0
117	74	Brecon PLC	75	..	7.7	21.5
154	128	Br Dredging	131	..	6.3	15.6
49	21	CRH	46	..	2.7	18.0
39	29	Cawoood Rly	34	..	..	..
209	139	Caradon	155	..	6.7	13.0
255	214	Caradon pf	238	+ 1	4.3	16.9
219	114	Casson Int	158½	..	7.1	..
158	150	Chaston Grp	150	..	6.4	10.6
134	99	Cmton (USJ)	104	..	3.8	10.2
97	67	Cmton 'A'	72	..	8.1	10.8
15	4½	Ecrice Blends	11½	..	..	..
358	243	Eames	347	..	3.6	16.1
82	62	Ecse	77	..	3.9	10.3
216	168	Graham Grp	168	..	3.6	16.5
39	27	Hanson Ltd	37	..	2.7	14.3
111	66	Hanson pf	111	..	6.3	17.5
111	66	Hanson Trust	108	..	6.3	17.5
46	46	Hemel Hmpd	46	..	4.3	..
39	29	Hepworth	39½	+ 2	6.5	14.5
54	44	Hoveringham	54	..	3.7	..
21	16	Ibstock	21	..	1.6	..
178	137	Ind Control	178	..	3.4	15.2
1141	1141	Inspec Group	1141	..	3.5	15.6
81	63	Jarvis	80	..	3.1	..
399	266	Jacks Horizon	399	..	4.7	22.9
99	83	Jewson	97	..	3.1	15.2
110	84	Kennedy Brook	110	..	3.6	14.9
410	334	Kwik Save	410	..	3.3	11.8
283	169	Forward Gp	198	..	3.5	12.2
141	74	Forward Tech	91	..	2.3	8.5
2634	2000	MFI	2320½	- 1½	3.7	14.5
36	27½	Jourdan (T)	29	..	4.3	28.8
175½	124½	Lonrho	158½	+ 2½	3.6	*
44	16	Pcnbe Chatham	41	..	..	..
295	210	Pearl Propert	264	..	6.2	14.2
206	116½	Rogers	126	..	3.2	20.6
488	337	Rothmans	445	+ 2	5.4	21.6
214	9½	Salter	12½	..	..	4.8
1630½	1105	Sime Darby¥	1124½	- 7	1.1	17.0
257	168	Slough	169	..	6.3	52.1
203	155	Solar	160½	..	7.2	15.5
2668	2230	TT Group	2392	..	2.2	..
2569	2062	Tarmac	2301	..	4.6	14.8
2134	1700	Tarmac Nt	1700	..	4.6	..
140	245	Ubotine	245	..	3.6	16.2
324	246½	Wescott	297½	+ 2½	1.5	25.5
13½	9½	Wimpey	10½	..	2.4	..
414½	309	Williams Hldg	325	..	5.0	20.3

BUSINESS SERVICES

3½	1½	Anglo Ltd	..	..	..	..
115	73	Abb Hldgs	73	..	..	..
195	195	Abbeycrest	195	..	5.0	..
11	6½	Bailey (C)	7	..	..	..
124	78	Br Bloodstock	78	..	8.2	7.5
21	20	Chart Gp	20	..	..	20.0
197	197	Clement	197	..	2.0	..
157	109	Cowell	148	..	1.1	9.9
357	188	Fitch	188	..	1.2	18.7
50	28	Hookey	42	..	1.2	33.5
282	274	Hunter	282	+ 2	2.1	14.6
274	214	Pace Micro	214	..	2.3	14.6
318	257	Pace-Micro	257	..	2.3	27.4
60	38	Pent & Can	38	..	1.9	..
185	64	Pentacrook	173	..	2.5	20.4
12½	7	Penta Group	7	..	..	..
515	5½	Pedome	10	..	..	..
130	78	Trafalgar & Midwest	84	..	..	..
244	178	Sinclair (Wm)	182	..	4.9	14.9
700	350	Waste Mgt Int	363	+ 1	..	14.5

CHEMICALS

156½	115½	Allied Colloids	153	+ 1	2.4	17.4
790	705	Amoco Intl	780	..	3.4	15.5
1740½	1166½	BASF Ltd	1729½	+ 9½	3.7	..
767	627	BOC	727	..	4.8	20.7
773	291	BTP	742	..	4.2	17.3
2190½	2129½	Bayer Dm50	2146½	+ 12½	3.1	..
737	598	Brent Chemic	668	..	4.6	..
399	299	Br Vita	342	..	4.2	16.7
46	16	Cambridge Ltd	16	- 5	..	..
1930	1250	Cannons Pet	1650	..	4.9	31.3
5387	4200	Courtaulds	5140	+ 3	4.2	30.6
585	557	Croda	582	..	2.9	15.6
145	95	Crodite	150	..	4.4	13.3
62½	35½	Enso Colour	62½	..	2.5	19.5
149	110	Fairbairn Lt	113	..	3.5	11.1
172	123	Hickson	128	..	3.1	11.0
2153½	2120½	Hoechst	2126½	- 46½	3.2	..
250	153½	Holiday Chem	211	- 4	3.6	17.2
868	737	ICI	786	+ 11	4.5	61.9
151½	108	Kemi	115½	..	4.7	11.0
845	575	Laporte	783	+ 1	3.8	17.8
79	46	MTM	73	..	0.7	..
405	256	Mondeo	396	..	4.2	14.5
127	100	Mallinck Russell	114	..	6.8	..
125	61	Microkool	66	..	6.5	8.9
873½	358½	Montgomrie	448	..	4.4	20.7
249	208	Norsk	208	+ 1	3.8	22.6
272	187	Scapa	254	..	3.8	15.8
66	58	Sutcliffe Speak	62	..	2.8	14.9
852½	696	Tomkins Chem	696½	- 16	0.5	14.1
436	334	Waddle Storage	334	- 1	6.5	16.6
326	191	Wellington Hldg	191	..	3.4	16.5
203	170	Wiltshire Pet	198	..	3.0	16.5
383	345	Yorks Chems	345	..	3.8	15.8
336	256	Yule Catto	336	..	3.0	21.0

DISTRIBUTORS

127	106	ABI Lasat	106	..	4.8	*
317	248	Ascot	308	..	2.6	16.7
580	253	Aston & Harvey	280	..	3.3	7.4
21	21	Alexander	21	..	2.9	19.5
175	111	Appleyard	111	..	6.5	19.6
6	3½	Asq Br Eng	4½	..	1.3	33.9
576	466	BSS Group	516	..	4.4	16.3
25½	17	Bearing Power	22½	..	5.6	*
405	249	Brockhay Mtr	255	..	5.3	10.4
40	29	Bogod 'A'	29	..	3.1	11.8
370	288	Bramner	353	+ 1	4.5	19.6
31	15	Bridgend Gp	15	..	1.7	78.0
99	88	Bill Pkings	89	..	3.2	..
71	40	Brord & Tawse	42	..	..	..
57	35	Burndene	38	+ 2	6.4	*
485	295	Caltyrist	356	..	5.4	44.0
59	34	Capital Pict	34	- ½	3.7	13.3
138	84	Central Mtr	88	..	5.0	21.6
51	32½	Cook (DG)†	41	..	3.5	12.6
342½	197½	Cowie A	238	..	4.8	11.6
192½	127	Dag Motors	138	..	5.9	15.9
653	446	Dennans B	596	+ 5	1.4	*
528	414½	Explorist	455	..	4.0	14.9
589	443	Electrocomponents	468	..	2.8	19.9
91	34	Hargreave Hsmn	45	..	2.4	17.6
263	225	Elec & General	260	- 1	3.8	19.0
234	207	Eurodollar†	207	- 1	5.3	15.7
173	105	European Mtr	108	..	5.2	11.7
3396	386	Evans Halshaw	388	..	4.6	13.2
656	490½	Farnell Elect	537	+ 6	1.9	22.0
78	50	Fife Indmor	58	..	3.9	8.5
94	15	Gardner	15½	..	6.0	7.4
46	19	Glenmorston	23½	..	..	25.9
160	89	Glenwing	89	..	3.4	32.3
76	59	Hollins Hdgs	72	..	..	58.2
190	126	Hombro	190	..	5.7	14.6
73	51	Richard (Lucas)	58	..	4.6	41.5
104½	76	Rotation Wtd	77	..	5.3	16.9
204	161	Robb-Bryce	166½	..	3.6	29.4
198	156	Robert	165	..	4.0	26.1
190	134	Robson	145	..	5.1	13.5
150½	72	Sanger Eng	141	..	3.0	18.8
270	245	Simmons	266	..	3.1	18.4
630	500	Sirdar	575	- 5	2.1	17.1
130½	74	Smith Eng	74	- 2	2.9	*
82	15	Sn Harcourt	81	..	2.3	29.0
1458	1031	SKF 'B'	1268½	- 15½	2.3	*
527½	411	Smiths Ind	458	..	3.5	17.5
175	152	PCT	152	..	2.8	19.0
318	252	Pennington	291	..	3.7	16.5
85	61	Pickby Storers	72	..	7.2	9.8
662	449	Powell Duffryn	662	..	4.2	13.2
477	307	Hydro-Elec	335	- 5	5.2	10.0
486	325	Scottish Power	335	- 4	4.8	10.5
913	691	Sth Wales	864	- 8	4.3	11.6
899	691	Sth Western	864	- 8	4.3	11.6
837	540	Southern Elec	788	- 6	4.6	11.0
785	532	Yorkshire Elec	758	- 6	4.3	13.9

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

894½	610½	East Midlands	803	- 7	4.3	33.4
866	566	Eastern Elec	736	- 12	4.7	11.6
776	524	London Electr	734	- 12	4.2	11.2
686	535	Manweb	686	- 6	4.0	10.8
645½	547	Midlands Elec	597	- 6	3.9	12.1
1065	794	Northern Elec	1065	- 14	3.4	11.8
1065	589	Northern Elec	1065	- 14	3.4	11.8
429	359	Nth Ireland	359	+ 1	4.2	9.7
867	597	Norweb	810	+ 4	3.8	8.8
862	649	Powergen	849	- 6	3.2	11.5
477	307	Hydro-Elec	335	- 5	5.2	10.0
486	325	Scottish Power	335	- 4	4.8	10.5
913	691	Sth Wales	864	- 8	4.3	11.6
899	691	Sth Western	864	- 8	4.3	11.6
837	540	Southern Elec	788	- 6	4.6	11.0
785	532	Yorkshire Elec	758	- 6	4.3	13.9

ENGINEERING

186	119	ABM	179	..	3.1	47.8
247	47	APV	182	..	..	..
1465	1465	ASW A	..	..	..	..
57	29	Aero Hardware	34	+ 2	3.4	35
14	14	Aerospace Eqp	14	..	..	..
47	24	Anicut	36	..	..	..
1	1	Ash & Lacy	1	..	..	..
24	24	Aston Ind	24	..	..	..
1	1	Avdel	1	..	..	..
1	1	Avesta	1	..	..	..
1	1	BBA	1	..	..	..
1	1	Barnes (Charles)	1	..	..	..
1	1	Bibby Ld	1	..	..	..
1	1	Bibby Ld	1	..	..	..
1	1	Bodycote Intl

BAT to shed 1,700 US staff

BY SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH

MORE than 1,700 American workers will lose their jobs as a result of BAT's $1 billion acquisition of American Tobacco, BAT's Brown and Williamson subsidiary said yesterday.

Most of the redundancies will come in field sales, where the sales team of Brown and Williamson will take over their responsibilities. Last year, Brown and Williamson slimmed its sales force significantly with a redundancy programme.

BAT promised to keep production going in American Tobacco's factory in Reidsville, North Carolina, until at least 1996. Under an agreement reached with the Federal Trade Commission, Brown and Williamson was allowed to merge with American Tobacco only if it divested several cigarette brands. The Reidsville plant, employing 1,000 workers, must also be made available to prospective buyers.

BAT ruled out assimilating the American Tobacco sales force into that of Brown and Williamson, pointing out that the Brown and Williamson team stands at 1,400.

"We don't need two sales forces," said Ralph Edmondson, a spokesman for BAT. Redundant staff would receive "a comprehensive severance package, which now includes outplacement assistance", the company said.

The American Tobacco brands that BAT must sell include Montclair, Malibu and Bull Durham. Brown and Williamson plans gradually to shift production of other American Tobacco brands to its plant in Macon, Georgia.

BAT said it was continuing a review of American Tobacco production facilities to determine the best way of integrating the operations. BAT shares rose 1p to 450p yesterday.

DAVE HOWELLS



Peter Aikens said results benefited from contributions from Freetraders, the drinks wholesaler, and Grants of St James's, two companies acquired last year

Christmas cheer for three more high street retailers

BY SARAH BAGNALL

THE stream of upbeat Christmas trading statements from British retailers continued yesterday as Storehouse, Body Shop and Lloyds Chemists reported healthy rises in sales. The only disappointment was a worse than expected performance by Sears, the Selfridges to Olympus retail group.

City analysts said they were pleased with the figures because the companies have maintained margins rather than pursued volume growth.

Storehouse, the group that controls BhS and Mothercare, said it had had a "very successful Christmas". Sales in the six weeks to Christmas Eve rose 5.5 per cent and gross margins advanced by more than 1 per cent. Mothercare performed particularly well and BhS had another record year. A company spokesman said like-for-like sales were subdued, reflecting the retailer's decision to take a number of actions that they knew would damage sales but would benefit margins. The shares fell ½p to 221½p.

Body Shop, the environmentally conscious cosmetics group, announced a 5 per cent rise in like-for-like sales in its British stores in the nine weeks to December 24. The company said this was in line with the stores' performance in the ten months to date.

The stores in America fared less well and like-for-like sales fell 1 per cent during the Christmas period. However, analysts said that reflected the company's strategy of opening a clutch of new stores in the same area, which erode existing stores' sales but are not included yet in the like-for-like sales figures.

The results prompted Panmure Gordon to lift its profit forecast for the year to February 28 by £500,000 to £34 million. The shares rose 2p to 189p.

Lloyds Chemists, the pharmaceuticals and healthfood wholesaler and retailer, announced a 5.9 per cent rise in underlying sales at its Holland & Barrett stores and a 5.1 per cent rise in like-for-like sales by its chemist divison. The drugstores saw flat underlying sales. The shares rose 5p to 304p.

Meanwhile, analysts expressed disappointment at the Christmas performance of Sears, the Selfridges-to-Olympus sports combine. The group said like-for-like sales were up 6.4 per cent for the five weeks to January 7. Liam Strong, chief executive, said: "We are pleased with sales over Christmas, particularly after the weak trading earlier this autumn."

The City did not like the news that gross margins in the second half of the year were marginally lower than in the same period last year.

Overall its retail businesses lifted like-for-like sales by 7.4 per cent but the Freemans home shopping division saw sales fall 2.3 per cent. Selfridges, the group's flagship store, increased underlying sales by 11.2 per cent in the second half to January 7, while British Shoe sales rose 10.7 per cent.

The high street fashion chains lifted sales by 3.7 per cent although the sports and leisurewear division saw sales slide by 3.7 per cent. That reflected adverse trading conditions for the Olympus sports shops. The shares fell 4½p to 101½p.

Matthew Clark optimistic

BY MARTIN BARROW
CITY NEWS EDITOR

MATTHEW Clark, the acquisitive drinks company, said it detects "tentative indications" of an improvement in consumer confidence, with Christmas trading in line with expectations.

Peter Aikens, chief executive, yesterday announced a rise in profits to £7.2 million before tax in the six months to October 31, from £3.4 million previously. Earnings increased to 20p a share from 14.1p and the interim dividend is lifted to 8p a share, payable on April 6, from 7.25p.

Results benefited from full contributions from Freetraders, the drinks wholesaler, and Grants of St James's, two companies acquired last year, with group turnover rising to £125.4 million from £47.6 million. Gaymer Group Europe, acquired for £105 million in October, will make a maiden contribution in the second half.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Booker to put £95m into cash-and-carry

BOOKER, the food distributor and prepared-food specialist, is to invest a total of £95 million in the distribution operations of Booker Belmont Wholesale, the cash-and-carry business, over a three-year period. Booker is to establish a single integrated network of large regional distribution centres to handle 95 per cent of the stock for its 160 outlets. This compares with 25 per cent at present, with the rest delivered by individual suppliers to each depot. The company says this is more costly and less efficient.

Booker will invest approximately £35 million, relating mainly to information technology, vehicles and fittings. The balance of £60 million relates mainly to property investment, which will largely be financed by a third party. One-off costs and asset writedowns will also be incurred over the next three years as a result of the investment, which will be charged as an exceptional item of £18 million in the 1994 accounts, partly as a result of the new investment and partly relating to earlier consolidations.

Coda drops into red

CODA GROUP, the computer company, incurred losses of £7.99 million before tax in the year to October 31, its first year as a quoted company, against profits of £3.75 million previously. The announcement clipped another 5p off the shares, which closed at 85p, compared with the issue price of 235p. On flat revenues of £23.4 million (£23.5 million), administrative expenses surged to £31.5 million from £19.7 million after restructuring of the US operations. Losses were 27.7p a share (10.6p earnings). There is again no dividend.

VW Mexico to stop work

VOLKSWAGEN of Mexico plans to halt all production at its plant in the state of Puebla for the week starting January 23 as a result of the Mexican economic crisis and shrinkage in the car market already experienced. All 13,900 employees will be asked not to show up for work and will receive only half their normal pay for that week. Volkswagen of Mexico, which produced 260,000 cars last year, including 100,000 for export, promised to fulfil all its export obligations, notably to the US and Canadian markets.

Storm damages Geest

GEEST, the fresh fruit importer, still cannot quantify the cost of damage caused by tropical storm Debbie, which struck the Windward Islands in September. Half of Geest's bananas come from the islands. Geest said: "Brokers' estimates for 1994 group results have varied markedly." It added that before the unknown exceptional items are taken into account, taxable profits were likely to be in the region of £11.5 million for the year ending December 31. The total dividend payout was likely to be maintained at 8.1p.

Good year for Hawtin

HAWTIN, the holding company, lifted pre-tax profits to £2.9 million (£2.2 million) in the year to September 30. There is a final dividend of 0.875p, making 1.15p for the year, up from 0.95p. The company said its building products, leisure and fitness businesses had all enjoyed major improvements. Its property division also did well and its textiles arm again produced more than £1 million profits. The company said that, with borrowings cut, it was well placed to make acquisitions and increase the business internally in the coming year.

Defence in use of suspect's photograph

Hellewell v Chief Constable of Derbyshire

Before Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment December 21]

Police who made reasonable use of a suspect's photograph for the purpose of the prevention and detection of crime had a public interest defence to any action brought against them for breach of confidence.

Mr Justice Laws so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division, sitting at Leicester, allowing an application by the defendant, the Chief Constable of Derbyshire, to strike out a claim by the plaintiff, Paul Hellewell, for declaratory relief and an injunction restraining the disclosure to the public of any photograph of him taken when in custody at Long Eaton police station on May 11, 1989 when he was charged with theft and attempted theft. He was later convicted of both offences.

Mr Richard Clayton for the Chief Constable; Mr James A. Howlett for the plaintiff.

MR JUSTICE LAWS said that while in custody at the police station the plaintiff had been photographed in accordance with paragraph 4.2 of Code D of the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.66) Codes of Practice*.

Traders in the shop watch scheme, following a complaint as to the level of shoplifting and harassment experienced by shopkeepers in the town, had requested police to provide photographs of individuals known to be causing particular problems, because in some shops new staff might not recognise such troublemakers and as a result fail to bar them from the premises.

Photographs, including a photograph of the plaintiff, had been copied from the police file and handed to shop watch members. The nature of the photograph, with the plaintiff's name, a number, and the date, was such that it would be tolerably clear to anyone looking at it that it was taken in police or prison custody: it was, in common parlance, a "mug shot". It would thus at least convey the information that the plaintiff was known to the police.

Guidelines were given to the effect that the photographs were not to be publicly displayed, so that only the shopkeepers or their staff might see them. However, the plaintiff had learnt that his photograph was in use and had brought proceedings.

His Lordship entertained no doubt that disclosure of a photograph might in some circumstances be actionable as a breach of confidence. However, the chief constable submitted that the statement of claim did not plead facts which could arguably impress the police with a duty of confidence in relation to the photograph: there was no plea of a confidential relationship, nor of any notice given by the plaintiff that the material contained in the photograph was to be held in confidence.

As to the latter point, it was clear that a duty of confidence might be created simply out of the relationship between the parties, with no requirement of any express notice from confidor to confidee. And the idea that a detained suspect might formally notify the police that the photograph just taken of him under Code D was to be treated by them as confidential information amounted to a Gilbertian scenario only capable of existence in a lawyer's fertile mind.

In his Lordship's judgment, where the police took a photograph of a suspect at the police station in circumstances where, at least, the suspect's consent was not required, they were not by law free to make whatever use they would of the picture so obtained. That was not a public fact: it might be described, *prima facie* at least, as a piece of confidential information.

The circumstances in which the photograph was taken, where the suspect had no choice save to insist that physical force be not used upon him, imposed obligations on the police, breach of which might sound in an action at private law. Those obligations were not defined merely by the need to comply with paragraph 4.4 of Code D: indeed, they could not be, since paragraph 4.4 did not prescribe the use to which a photograph might be put where, in accordance with its provisions, the police were not bound to destroy the picture.

In his Lordship's judgment, the use which the police might make of such a photograph was limited by their obligations to the photograph's subject as follows: they might make reasonable use of it for the purpose of the prevention and the detection of crime, the investigation of alleged offences, and the apprehension of suspects or persons unlawfully at large.

They might do so whether or not the photograph was of any person they sought to arrest, or of a suspected accomplice, or of anyone else: the key was that they must have those and only those purposes in mind and must make no more than reasonable use of the picture in seeking to accomplish them.

The term "reasonable", as in so many areas of the law, was fluid and its application would depend on the circumstances of the particular case. It was as impossible as it was undesirable to lay down anything like a lexicon of the kinds of facts that would amount to reasonable use of such a picture by the police.

Where the use in question was decided upon by the honest judgment of professional police officers, that would of itself go a long way to establish its reasonableness. Provided those bounds of principle were not transgressed, there would be an obvious and vital public interest in the use made of such photographs, which the courts would uphold.

It was perhaps confusing to put the matter on the basis that "there is no confidence in iniquity"; some little difficulty had been caused in the past by the question whether the iniquity had to be proved or it was enough if it was the result only of reasonable suspicion. The better analysis was in terms of the public interest defence which was always available, where the facts supported it, against a breach of confidence claim.

Common sense and law alike dictated that the police should be subject to no legal sanctions if they made honest and reasonable use of a suspect's photograph in the fight against crime. Where the use made of such photographs lay within those bounds, the police would have a public interest defence to any action brought against them for breach of confidence.

In those circumstances the real question was not whether the statement of claim pleaded facts capable of giving rise to a cause of action for breach of confidence, but whether the chief constable had shown that if the matter went to trial he would be bound to succeed in establishing a public interest defence.

The following facts were not in contention:

1 The plaintiff was a criminal with 32 convictions, including 19 for offences of dishonesty. There was material from which, at least, the police could conclude that he had caused trouble in local shops.

2 The dissemination by the police of the photograph was limited to distribution to shopkeepers in the shop watch scheme.

3 Implicitly, the police had acted, and only acted, in good faith for the prevention or detection of crime, and had done so to a limited and specific extent by distributing the plaintiff's photograph only to persons who had reasonable need to make use of it.

On the undisputed facts, it was plain beyond the possibility of argument that the use made by the police of the plaintiff's photograph was lawful. There was no dispute as to their good faith; the picture's dissemination was limited.

In his Lordship's judgment, there was no issue here fit to be tried. The police had acted well within the scope of such obligation as the law imposed upon them in relation to the plaintiff's photograph. What they had done was obviously and unarguably in the public interest. The plaintiff's claim would be struck out.

Solicitors: Mr David Tysoe, Matlock; Starkie & Gregory, Long Eaton.

Ministry has no duty to prevent drink abuse

Barrett v Ministry of Defence

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Beldam and Lord Justice Saville

[Judgment December 21]

The Ministry of Defence was not under a duty to take reasonable care to prevent a member of its forces from drinking himself to the point of unconsciousness at one of their duty free bars.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal brought by the ministry against the decision of Judge Phelan on May 12, 1993 when he gave judgment in the sum of £160,651.16 for the plaintiff, Mrs Dawn Barrett, widow of Terence Barrett, for herself and her son, Liam, under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 and for the benefit of the estate of her deceased husband under the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934. The judge had reduced the damages of £214,201.54 by 25 per cent which he had held was the deceased's share of the responsibility for his death.

Mr Brian Leveson, QC and Mr Robert Jay for the Ministry of Defence; Mr Geoffrey Nice, QC and Mr Anthony Seys Llewellyn for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that at the time of his death, the deceased was thirty years of age and a naval airman serving at a shore based establishment at the Royal Navy in northern Norway.

Within the base there were three bars, at which duty free drink could be obtained. Drinking at the bars when off duty was one of the main recreations of personnel attached to the base.

In January 1988 the senior naval officer was Lieutenant Commander Lomax, whose attitude to the enforcement of Queen's Regulations and standing orders, in particular to excessive drinking and drunkenness, was unusually lax. As a consequence of the death of the deceased, he was charged with, and pleaded guilty to, breach of article 1810 of the regulations. That plea acknowledged that he had negligently performed the duty of actively discouraging overindulgence in alcohol.

The Ministry of Defence's principal ground of appeal was that the judge was wrong to hold that it was under any duty to take care to see that the deceased, a mature man, did not consume so much alcohol that he became unconscious. If the deceased himself was to treated as a responsible adult, he alone was to blame for his collapse. On that basis the judge's apportionment of liability was plainly wrong. Even if the judge's finding of that duty was to stand, the deceased ought to have been regarded as equally responsible for his own death. The ministry did not challenge the judge's findings that it was in breach of duty to take care of the deceased once he had collapsed and it had assumed responsibility for him.

In his Lordship's judgment, the judge was wrong to equate the Queen's Regulations and standing orders with guidance given in the Highway Code or in pamphlets relating to safety in factories. The purpose of Queen's Regulations and standing orders was to preserve good order and discipline in the service and to ensure that personnel remained fit for duty and while on duty obeyed commands and off duty did not misbehave bringing the service into disrepute.

All regulations which encouraged self-discipline, if obeyed, would incidentally encourage service personnel to take greater pride in their own behaviour but in no sense were the regulations and orders intended to lay down standards or to give advice in the exercise of reasonable care for the safety of the men when off duty drinking in the bars.

In the present case, the judge posed the question whether there was a duty at law to take reasonable steps to prevent the deceased becoming unconscious through alcohol abuse. He said his conclusion that there was such a duty was founded on the fact that it was foreseeable in the environment in which the defendants grossly failed to enforce their regulations and standing orders that the deceased would succumb to heavy intoxication.

His Lordship would reverse the finding that the ministry was under a duty to take reasonable care to prevent the deceased from abusing alcohol to the extent that he did. Until the deceased collapsed, his Lordship held that the deceased was in law alone responsible for his condition.

Thereafter when the ministry assumed responsibility for him it accepted that the measures taken fell short of the standard reasonably to be expected. It did not summon medical assistance and its supervision of him was inadequate.

The final question was how far the deceased should be regarded as responsible for his death. Mr Nice argued that once the deceased had become unconscious his fault was virtually spent and the whole responsibility for his death ought to fall on the ministry, although he did not seek to disturb the judge's assessment of 25 per cent.

The immediate cause of the deceased's death was suffocation due to inhalation of vomit. The amount of alcohol he had consumed not only caused him to vomit, it deprived him of the spontaneous ability to protect his air passages after he had vomited. His fault was therefore a continuing and direct cause of his death.

Moreover, his lack of self-control in his own interest caused the ministry to have to assume responsibility for him. But for his fault, it would not have had to do so. How far in such circumstances was it just and equitable to regard the deceased as the author of his misfortune?

The deceased involved the ministry in a situation in which it had to assume responsibility for his care.

His Lordship considered a greater share of the blame should rest upon the deceased than on the ministry and he would reduce the amount of the damages recoverable by the plaintiff by two-thirds holding the deceased one third to blame. Accordingly the appeal would be allowed and the judgment in the sum of £160,651.16 be set aside and substituted by a sum of £71,400.51.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Stewarts.

Transnational Jewish divorce not recognised

Berkovits v Grinberg, Attorney-General intervening

Before Mr Justice Wall

[Judgment January 11]

A get written in London under Jewish ecclesiastical law and delivered to the wife at the District Rabbinical Court at Netanya, Israel on June 14, 1988 effective as a divorce decree under the law of the state of Israel was not entitled to recognition under the Family Law Act 1986.

Mr Justice Wall so held in the Family Division when dismissing an application to recognise the decree by Rabbi Bernard Berkovits, the ecclesiastical judge for the Federation of Synagogues.

Section 45 of the 1986 Act provides: "Subject to sections 51 and 52 of this Act, the validity of a divorce, annulment or legal separation obtained in a country outside the British Islands (in this Part referred to as an overseas divorce, annulment or legal separation) shall be recognised in the United Kingdom if, and only if, it is entitled to recognition — (a) by virtue of sections 40 to 49 of this Act or (b) by virtue of any enactment other than this Part."

Section 46 provides: "(1) The validity of an overseas divorce, annulment or legal separation obtained by means of proceedings shall be recognised if — (a) the divorce, annulment or legal separation is effective under the law of the country in which it was obtained; and (b) at the relevant date either party to the marriage — (i) was habitually resident in the country in which the divorce, annulment or legal separation was obtained; or (ii) was domiciled in that country; or (iii) was a national of that country. . .

"(3) In this section 'the relevant date' means — (a) in the case of an overseas divorce, annulment or legal separation obtained by means of proceedings, the date of the commencement of the proceedings. . ."

Rabbi Bernard Bertovits in person; Mr Ian Karsten, QC and Lord Meston for the Attorney-General.

MR JUSTICE WALL said that the matter had come before the court in an unusual way. The petitioner was not Mr Simon Grinberg, the husband, who had taken no part in the proceedings, but the rabbi who served as a judge of the Beth Din, the court for members of the Jewish community wishing to adhere to Jewish law.

The Federation of Synagogues authorised marriages between Jewish couples. Before such a marriage could take place there had to be written authorisation that all requirements had been satisfied under Jewish law and that there was no impediment to the marriage under English law and that the requisite certificate had been obtained from the local registrar.

In November 1992 the rabbi had received a letter from the husband applying to marry for the second time and supplying details of his previous marriage and its termination by get in Israel. The rabbi had applied under section 55 for a declaration that the divorce was valid.

It was accepted that a divorce by means of a get was a divorce obtained "by means of proceedings" within section 46(1) of the 1986 Act. In the present case there was no doubt that the criteria laid down in sections 46(1)(a) and (b) were satisfied. The question which had to be answered was whether the get written in London and delivered in Israel was an overseas divorce within the meaning of section 46.

The writing of the get was an important part in the proceedings, written by a trained scribe in Hebrew and Aramaic and could take three hours or longer. The get was executed in the Beth Din in the presence of three dayans, the judges. Thereafter the husband delivered the document to the wife in person in the presence of two witnesses. The wife was asked whether she wished to receive the get of her own free will. The receiving of the get had to take place in the Beth Din.

It was not straining language unduly to read "obtained by means of proceedings" and "obtained in a country outside the British Islands" where they occurred in the same sentence as meaning "obtained by means of proceedings in a country outside the British Islands".

The reference to the "date of the commencement of the proceedings" must refer to one set of proceedings instituted in the country in which the divorce was obtained for the purposes of recognition. The statute also required that at the date the proceedings were commenced one of the parties must be either habitually resident of domiciled or a national of the country in which the divorce was obtained.

The proceedings should be geographically connected not only to the place where the divorce was obtained but to the place where they were instituted. Had proceedings in more than one country been envisaged, it would have been logical for the date to be when the divorce was obtained as in section 46(3)(b) of the Act. Proceedings must begin and end in the same place. A transnational divorce could not be recognised.

Solicitor: Treasury Solicitor.

Unnecessary order

In re T (a Minor) (Contact order)

An order made by a court requiring adoptive parents of a child to permit contact between the child and her natural mother was an unnecessary order to have made, and which could unnecessarily bind the adoptive parents, when there had been ready and willing agreement between the adoptive parents and the mother as to continuing and open contact in the best interests of the child.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Millett and Sir Ralph Gibson) so held on January 12 when allowing the appeal of the adoptive parents against the order made by Judge Heald in Nottingham County Court on April 29, 1994, that contact between the child and her natural mother should be made not less than once a year.

Corrections

In *R v Young* (*The Times* December 30, 1994) counsel for the appellant were Mr D. Perry Davey, QC and Mr Andrew Mitchell, who were instructed by Gilchrists.

In *GATTC Tools and Equipment Ltd. v Yuasa Warwick Machinery Ltd* (*The Times* January 3) the appeal was from Judge Malcolm Porter, sitting as an official referee.

Game to make a fortune in a new career?

The popularity of computer games is leading to openings for designers, says Charles Salem. With the right touch, the rewards can be great

There is still a fortune to be made in computer games, according to John Cook. The agent should know. Within five years, he has plucked computer buffs from backgrounds as diverse as miners and television repairers and turned them into near millionaires through royalties on their game designs.

What does it take to be a hit designer? Surprisingly little, if the experience of Mark Mason is anything to go by. Mr Mason says: "I was working down the pit as a coalminer. Anything I could do to get me away — I'd do it. I could afford a little Atari 400 and when I wasn't down the pit, I'd be in my bedroom, playing with games."

As the software industry took off, so did the price of the games and Mr Mason found himself having to use a little imagination to construct his own games.

In 1987, he sent one of his games to Huston, a young company — which published it. Mark had a small hit on his hands. He says: "Because I had been on strike for a year, I had no choice but to leave the mining industry and try to make it as a game inventor and programmer.

"Ocean, one of the biggest publishers, persuaded me to do a computer version of a show on which the Gladiators is based," says Mr Mason. He then found himself with a game that topped the charts.

"It takes more gear to invent a game," he says. "But if you have the right game idea, you can make it in your bedroom."

Jon Ritman was a television repairer when he bought a small personal computer in case his employer ever needed computer specialists. Meanwhile, he could try to make up games.

He says: "I came up with *Namtir Raiders*, which was a strategy game consisting of puzzles and mental exercises, using graphics. It is also my surname spelt backwards. The game was not a huge hit but it was big enough for me to stop being a TV repairer and to keep writing games in my bedroom."

JOHN PICK



Mark Mason, a former miner, who started by creating computer games in his bedroom

A string of hits followed throughout the 1980s, starting in 1984 with *Match Day* for the Spectrum. *The Batman Game* and *Match Day 2* followed, as did a rise in his royalties.

"You can make six figures off a game, if you get it right," Mr Ritman says. "If you have a PC, the right idea and are prepared to put the effort into inventing a proper game rather than just flash graphics and loud sound effects, the rewards could be still there."

A group of British inventors is about to hit the market with what it hopes will be the game of 1995: intelligent games. *Sim Rainforest* combines action environmental concerns and, of course, flash graphics and loud sound effects. *Matthew Stibbe*, a history graduate, leads the group. The game is a culmination of nights at college and days at the kitchen table.

For the uninitiated, the term "sim game" is an abbreviation of simulation. A player decides how the game is to progress or not. Sim games are as much a test of intelligence and strategy as of manual dexterity and the ability to "explode" any passing gremlin.

> Having an idea is not enough: the game must 'play' well

The group used a rainforest expert to provide background about rainforests. A mathematical model of the elements of a forest eco-system was built.

Mr Stibbe insists that such a step is one of the most important parts of a game design, especially in the initial stages. "It forms part of a background document which serves as the 'recipe' for the programmer," he explains. "It is what so much of the next stages in design are based on. Designers are trying to give players two kinds of games. On the one hand you have the sim-and-strategy product, on the other, games with a violence and destruction theme.

"Our game was a sim game," says Mr Stibbe, "so we didn't necessarily have a fixed end to the gameplay. But we had to make sure it was unique. It had to have something no other sim game had."

What seems to be clear is that extensive research is needed for new games. In the case of Sim Rainforest, not a line of code was written for between five and six months after the initial planning stages were completed and agreed.

As the agent John Cook is keen to point out, a successful game can change its creator's life overnight. "I look after these inventors," he says, "and I started off painting sewage farms. So there is hope for game lovers everywhere."

But he is points out that having the idea is not enough. "The key is to make sure the game plays well. Only someone with a talent for that particular skill will make it. The rest will just be dreaming."

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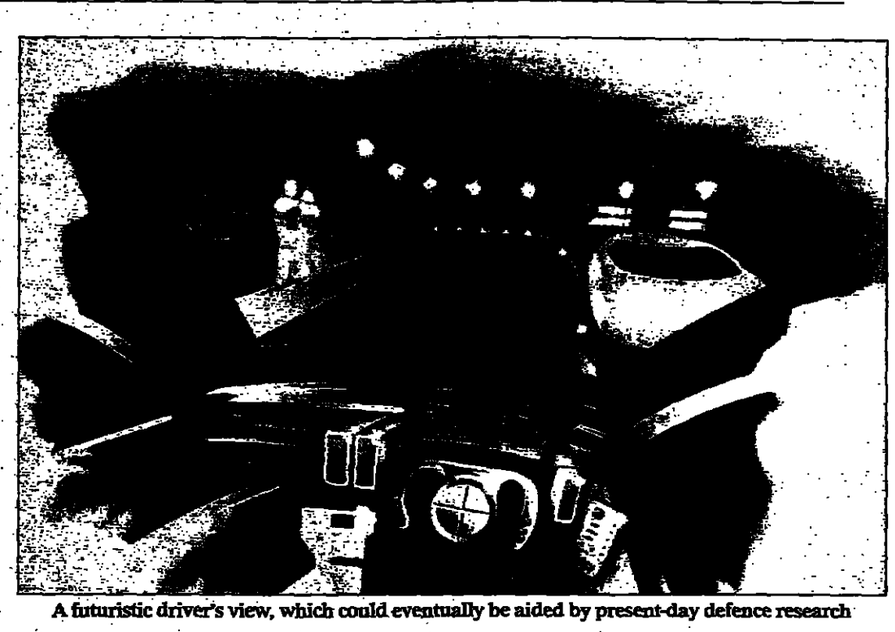
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INFOTECH

Civilian cars could be upgraded with technology from the Defence Research Agency, **Alan Jabez** reports

Military research for sale



A futuristic driver's view, which could eventually be aided by present-day defence research

The sight of armoured personnel carriers travelling up the high street is unlikely, but the Defence Research Agency (DRA), Britain's leading defence research and technology establishment, is moving into civilian transport.

"We have already worked with companies on aerodynamics, while the same technology which was used to reduce external noise on submarines is now being considered for underground trains," Andy Stimpson, the man spearheading the move, says.

Mr Stimpson says that the DRA is the largest research organisation of its kind in Europe, with a gallery of test tracks, wind tunnels, climatic chambers and specialist aviation and marine test facilities. It also has more than 4,000 scientists and engineers working in transport-related projects at sites across Britain. With a combined annual turnover of more than £700 million, its scale dwarfs the Transport Research Laboratory (annual turnover less than £35 million), the Government's primary civilian transport research centre.

The Ministry of Defence, the DRA's paymaster, is encouraging the new openness. "Our primary aim is to support British firms," Mr Stimpson says, although the DRA will seek co-operation from overseas if there is no British funding.

The agency has experience of civilian technology — this includes involvement in the development of Concorde, the UK Air Traffic Management System and the English Channel radar navigation system — as well as inventing liquid crystal displays, which are now standard in almost every Japanese-made electrical item.

Although the latest military robotic vehicles may be inappropriate for the public highway, electronics in military vehicles are now being copied by car manufacturers. "We are now seeing the development of a new industry in vetronics (electronics in vehicles) in the same way that avionics (electronics in aircraft) was established a number of years ago," Chris Hepden, the business support manager in the Fighting Vehicles and Systems division, says.

Typically the cars of the future will have many on-board sensors to assist the driver — from sensing adverse weather, to monitoring the performance of the driver. In the military, such sensors are already used in fighter planes and advanced ground-based vehicles.

Some of the DRA's advanced vehicle technologies could support a range of civilian applications. For instance, as part of the VERDI 2 project (Vehicle Electronics Research Defence Initiative), a Warrior armoured personnel carrier has been transformed into one of the most advanced ground-based vehicles in the world.

On board are advanced day and night-sensing devices, an advanced navigation system, remotely controlled operations, and a front "windscreen" which has been replaced by three video cameras which display the view ahead of the vehicle on a series of monitors. In addition, two revolving cameras on a telescopic pole which protrudes out of the top of the vehicle, provide a 360 degrees view of the surrounding environment.

Although such a vehicle is a world removed from an urban commuter car, Mr Hepden believes vehicles with video cameras and periscope-type visual aids instead of windscreens, could appeal to the construction, mining and logging industries.

Vehicle identification is another area in which the agency's expertise could have direct use in the commerical world. One obvious development is a computer processing system which is able to detect the position of all types of moving objects.

Dr John Savage says it was primarily developed to monitor approaching aircraft, but it could also be used for a range of trafffic surveillance purposes. He has already used the software with pictures from a normal video camera above the M3 motorway to calculate the speed of individual cars on the road in "real-time".

The same software can also be used at ground level — perhaps from a stationary or slow-moving vehicle. In fact, DRA staff have already discussed the idea of having small robotic vehicles travelling along the hard shoulder of motorways with a variety of video cameras and other sensors on board detecting problems on the carriageway — such as oil spillages or scattered debris.

Pick and mix

New software will allow you to put together your own PC applications

The more popular the personal computer becomes, the more limited the choice of software we seem to be able to use on it. Five years ago, more than 20 big name packages vied for your money. Today, the list is virtually reduced to one single publisher, Microsoft, with only two serious rivals, Lotus and Word Perfect, lagging far behind.

Industry consolidation, the rise of Microsoft Windows, and the growing domination of office "suites" — bundles of big applications at reduced prices — have put all but the big and brave out of the mainstream software business.

All this may be about to change. A new kind of software technology, which will allow you to mix and match features according to your tastes and needs, will make its debut this year.

As usual, the software business has adopted some awful names for what is a very simple idea. "Component software" essentially means that companies take their applications and break them down into their most important parts, then sell them separately.

So if you like the way Microsoft Word lets you type, but prefer Word Perfect's spelling checker, you buy one chunk from one application and the second from its rival. The technology should allow smaller companies to get back into desktop applications by opening up markets for specialist tools, such as spelling libraries for doctors or add-on parts that will check the language of a legal document.

It will also mean that applications will be able to run more efficiently, since they will no longer be devoting precious resources to components you may never need, such as complex formatting features which are now standard on mainstream word processing.

What component software needs, however, is a core standard that lets application parts from rival companies talk to each other. Two software standards are emerging, one, called OLE2 from Microsoft, and a second, supported by a broad consortium including IBM, Apple, Lotus and Word Perfect, known as Open Doc. Both make much of their "openness", though Microsoft has made it clear that it has no intention of supporting Open Doc over its own OLE standard.

This may not matter. Claris, the Apple-owned software company, has what looks like a component application in its Claris Works package. This has different modules, for word processing, spreadsheets and databases, which can all work on the same page, though at the moment it does not accept components from other publishers.

Larry Slotnick, the company's vice-president of product development, says that Claris is committed to component software in principle, for both Open Doc and the rival OLE, and that, for the user, the differences may be academic. Making software that can flit between the two standards is going to be an economic prerequisite, he feels, and technically feasible.

A bigger problem is how to turn in a profit from the change. Mr Slotnick thinks that application "chunks" may be sold for a few pounds through high street stores, posing immense financial questions for software giants.

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Teaching by computer: Jack Denner and his wife Rosemary

A new program will help dyslexics to make sense of the written word

When it comes to problems with reading and writing, up to one in ten people are simply failing to make the right connections. This is the theory of Jack Denner, 76, a former EMI development engineer who has developed a computer program he says is helping even those with the most acute learning difficulties.

Mr Denner's answer to dyslexia, or word blindness, has been to devise the Indirect Learning Method (ILM), a multimedia blend of computer speak and colour-coded responses, which has put more than 800 users back in touch with the written word.

He says the secret lies in a concept called connectionism which is at the heart of all learning. While most of us learn to read and write by relating symbols to what we see and hear, this is not enough for dyslexics who find it hard to sequence and remember words. Instead, this group of people — one with more than its fair share of geniuses — needs to learn by a more practical route which is where the computer comes into its own.

A background in research has, Mr Denner says, given him the diagnostic skills to think like dyslexics. "As in research, dyslexics have to start making the connections which will help them to learn in other ways."

Six years ago, at an age when most of us would dream of retirement, he and his wife decided to put these ideas to the test. They founded the Starcross Educational Research Group, complete with a committee of educational psychologists and remedial teachers to ensure their ideas were on the right lines. The result has been the development of a computer-based system of learning and support which the Denners, who are based at Newton Abbott in Devon, say is an important breakthrough in the treatment of dyslexia.

The system centres around an adapted 486 computer fitted with a purpose-built speech board, designed by the Denner's son Michael, and loaded with software containing a selection from more than 500 lesson programs written by Mr Denner. Also supplied as part of the package is a microphone, speakers and a built-in modem, allowing user groups to receive as much online support and additional lesson material as they need. The whole system, including training and support sells for £3,500.

Children and adults learn by following a course of lessons which allow them to see letters and words created by the computer at the same time as hearing them spoken. They can then repeat the words themselves, type them on to the screen and watch as they are fitted into appropriate sentences. All the time, the computer, a soothing recording of Mrs Denner's voice, encourages and acknowledges their progress.

Dr J. Fyfield, one of the educational psychologists asked to validate the system, says that "the talking computer itself was a motivator since it had patience and was non-threatening. Students were not in the least overawed by the technology". Up to 200 are using the system as part of self help groups.

"It's very much a learning, rather than a teaching, thing," says Sally Rowlands who heads a group at Launceston in Cornwall. Her son, Simon, "virtually couldn't read a word" when, aged seven, he started with ILM. Five years later, his reading and writing are up to scratch and Ms Rowlands is using the system to help others.

Colour and sound, she believes, are the key elements to the system's success. What is more, the letters on the keyboard are coded in vertical strips of colour, a feature Ms Rowlands says "allows people to learn with their fingers as well as their minds". They haven't got to keep looking down at the keyboard and they can begin to concentrate all their efforts on what is coming up on to the screen.

The education establishment is sceptical about cure-all solutions for a disability which has only come to be properly recognised in the past 20 years. "We see technology as an aid to teaching but not something which should replace the pupil-teacher relationship," says Michael Nation, an officer at the Dyslexia Institute, an educational charity which works with schools and families in all parts of Britain.

Three years ago, the institute launched the National Laptop Project which has purchased more than 100 personal computer and printers for use by dyslexic children in school. In their efforts to help dyslexics make up ground outside school, disciples of the ILM are winning support and referrals from the experts. Philip Macmillan, an Exeter-based educational psychologist, says: "The rate of improvement typically ranges from two to four times that of other 'normal systems'." The upshot, he notes, can be a more self-confident and well-adjusted individual.

NICK COTTAM

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Nth America	254.40	270.70	– 0.30	..
Far East	336.20	357.70	– 1.70	0.15
Europe	259.70	276.30	– 0.60	0.93
Ent Excel	69.76	73.15	– 0.16	3.13
Int Fxdmnts Acc	98.51	104.80	– 0.10	4.97
Int Fxdmnts Inc	72.24	76.86	– 0.08	4.97
Shelcot Opps	69.46	85.80	+ 0.01	0.43
Balanced Acc	51.92	55.57†	– 0.09	3.08
Balanced Inc	51.05	54.31†	– 0.09	3.08
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.50	133.20†	+ 0.20	7.70
High Inc Equity	155.40	166.20†	+ 0.30	4.74
Worldwide Bond	258.70	274.60	+ 0.50	5.63
Capital Growth				
American Growth	274.00	288.10†	– 0.10	78
Asian Pacific	293.80	312.50	– 3.50	..
Accum. & Savings	258.20	268.30	+ 0.60	2.95
Currency & Energy	184.80	111.50	+ 0.50	..
Euro Capital Inc	127.20	136.00	+ 0.20	.71
(Accum Units)	135.90	145.30	+ 0.20	.71
General	218.90	232.90	+ 0.20	2.34
Japan	127.60	135.10	– 0.60	..
Mastertrust	135.40	144.00	– 0.10	1.65
UK Growth Dlg	115.70	123.70		2.83
US Emerging Cos	130.30	138.40	– 0.40	..
Income & Growth	367.40	389.60	+ 0.20	3.20
Ethical	65.49	69.57	– 0.10	3.06
International	110.60	117.70	+ 0.30	.99
Dividend & Growth	69.02	61.72†	+ 0.07	4.55
Global Gwth & Inc	66.18	70.56	– 0.02	2.61
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
031 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.76	£16.92	+ 10.00	..
ARTHUR UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 388				
Amer Inc & Growth	42.35	43.96	– 0.06	0.76
Cash	99.23	50.21†	+ 0.01	4.46
European	106.50	117.40	+ 0.70	..
Gartmore	227.50	£10.06†	+ 0.70	1.84
Extra Income #	47.34	48.70†	+ 0.09	5.06
Far East Exag Exn	104.10	110.80	– 1.40	0.56
First Interest #	22.37	23.48†	+ 0.02	8.90
Fund Inv Tst	167.30	176.00	– 1.30	1.95
Japan	182.60	191.30	– 0.20	..
Latin American	99.77	53.26	+ 1.39	0.91
Pacific	57.33	70.97	– 0.83	0.58
Property Shares	69.16	63.17†	+ 0.07	4.92
UK Emerging Cos	61.02	64.09†	+ 0.35	1.94
UK Growth	42.35	45.01	– 0.12	2.60
Aber World Port #	68.57	68.98	– 0.22	2.34
Bibical	58.30	62.25†	– 0.05	2.82
Aberdeen Gth Inc #	46.73	49.72†	– 0.06	7.78
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
031 549 3252				
British Growth	65.56	70.81†	– 0.12	2.72
British Income	77.53	82.48†	– 0.01	3.44
Select Portfolio	82.58	87.85†	+ 0.03	..
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SNS LTD				
0452 305 958				
Ascity Income	72.35	76.76	– 0.07	7.84
Income Builder Inc	65.71	69.99†	– 0.32	3.03
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 0793 610 368 Client dlg: 0793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	218.90	234.00	– 0.70	3.33
Surplus	385.50	412.10	– 2.60	2.81
Balanced	644.40	688.80†	– 2.20	2.89
Accumulator	511.80	512.71	– 7.00	3.19
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.40	48.53	– 0.47	3.87
High Income	372.70	398.40	– 0.90	3.86
Equity Income	210.50	225.00†	– 0.70	3.70
High Yield	227.30	242.90	– 0.90	3.58
Gilt Securities	32.19	33.99†	– 0.09	6.24
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	135.50	145.00	– 0.30	0.48
European Growth	32.76	34.92	– 0.17	0.61
International	152.00	163.10	– 0.80	0.30
Japan	208.90	222.70†	– 0.80	0.01
Pacific	369.20	394.90†	– 6.10	0.01
Spec of America	397.50	422.70†	– 2.10	0.55
Wrldwd Asset Val	45.84	48.76	– 0.27	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	481.40	525.30†	– 2.30	2.43
Conv & Gilt	41.91	44.60	– 0.21	5.16
Smaller Cos	158.90	170.00†	– 0.10	1.30
2nd Smaller Cos	153.00	163.00	....	1.49
Recovery	129.20	137.90	....	1.91
Nat Mfg & Cnstr	144.50	154.40	– 0.10	0.77
Gnrls Earnings	327.80	350.40†	– 1.90	1.82
Technology	169.10	171.10	– 1.20	0.01
UK Special Sits	424.40	453.60	– 0.80	1.91
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0235 835 911				
Extra Inc Pens	94.99	98.59	....	3.04
Fidelity Pens Pens	80.62	82.35	....	2.26
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	67.49	71.89†	– 0.38	1.95
International	61.13	65.09†	....	....
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
031 222 4242				
America	274.10	294.40	....	....
Bond	107.30	113.00†	....	7.35
Bill Smlr Cos	93.99	99.03†	....	1.59
Cnty & Gen #	94.50	99.56	....	3.47
Earlgo	211.40	225.30	....	0.51
Euro Smlr Cos	98.48	103.80	....	0.82
Income Gwth	335.90	357.80	....	4.43
Japan	322.60	342.70	....	....
Latin American	64.86	68.66	....	....
Pacific	96.16	102.30	....	0.78
UK Smlr Cos	50.14	53.36†	....	1.30
Japan Fd	729.40	751.40	....	....
Managed Fd	168.50	177.80	....	2.59
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
071 489 1673				
Bill & Deposit	269.09	283.20	....	1.31
Capital Gwth	105.30	110.90	....	2.43
Whole Opps	171.70	180.74	....	0.45
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
081 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bld Inv Fd Inc	338.10	341.86	....	3.09
European Bd Inc	35.40	38.40†	+ 0.25	7.59
Europe	70.30	75.30	+ 0.16	4.39
Financial	88.86	72.90†	+ 0.25	5.14
500.0	496.80	456.90	+ 0.50	2.55
General	261.00	279.10	....	2.89
Property	248.80	264.00†	....	6.27
Trustee	159.70	161.50†	– 0.40	2.53
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†	....	4.89
Extra Income	112.50	120.30	+ 0.70	4.25
Gilt & Fxd Int	96.53	97.40†	+ 0.05	8.56
Income	504.00	540.00	+ 0.30	4.25
Income Builder	60.79	64.67	– 0.05	4.96
Int Income	58.97	62.73†	– 0.02	3.74
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	111.50	119.00	– 0.20	2.71
Ethical	116.10	124.20	– 0.30	1.55
Recovery	391.80	418.00	– 0.60	2.84
Smlr Cos Inc	42.24	45.30	+ 0.15	1.95
Special Sits	262.20	280.50	– 0.80	1.56
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	120.50	127.60	– 0.40	0.70
Acc Acc	237.60	252.10	+ 2.50	2.42
Acc Inc	145.80	155.10†	+ 1.50	2.42
Euro Gwth Inc	144.10	152.80	– 0.10	0.62
(Accum Units)	154.20	163.60	– 0.20	0.64
Japan & Gen Inc	180.90	190.60	– 0.30	..
(Accum Units)	182.10	192.80	– 0.30	..
Pan Spec Sits	83.32	88.25	– 0.16	..
Tiger Tech Inc	76.28	81.06	– 0.15	0.13
Worldwide	158.90	169.80†	– 0.30	0.78
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
081 668 9000				
American Growth	68.69	64.18	+ 0.08	..
Amer Smlr Cos	124.20	132.20	+ 0.20	..
Convertibles	93.33	97.03†	– 0.06	5.70
Emerging	237.20	252.40	– 4.20	0.10
Equity Income	84.44	89.82	– 0.09	4.98
European Growth	261.40	248.60	+ 1.10	1.93
Europe	208.20	222.00†	+ 1.40	0.20
Gemini Growth	70.41	74.69	+ 0.48	0.50
Global Bond	61.29	64.55	– 0.11	6.46
Global Growth	117.50	125.30	– 0.60	..
Japan Growth	201.80	215.30	– 1.80	..
Japan Income	174.00	185.60	– 1.50	..
Nprn Trust	77.04	65.98	+ 0.08	..
Portfolio	124.00	132.80	– 0.30	1.88
(Accum Units)	126.20	242.40	– 0.50	1.88
UK Growth	79.76	84.65	– 0.34	1.49
UK Smaller Cos	82.94	88.70	– 0.15	1.89
Select Managers	70.55	75.62	– 0.04	1.19
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
071 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	73.49	78.18	....	....
Special Opper Inc	52.61	55.33	....	....
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD				
071 236 6441				
Special Sits	168.50	178.10	– 0.70	1.58
Shetland	92.06	97.76	– 0.29	3.93
Inr Gbl & Inc	203.90	216.10†		3.19
UK & Gen	45.48	48.47	– 0.13	1.94
Fund of Funds	60.62	64.83	– 0.04	..
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
041 223 6000				
Balanced Pension	100.15	105.96	+ 0.05	1.97
(Accum Units)	112.50	119.13	+ 0.06	1.97
Smaller Cos	99.61	105.47	+ 0.05	1.28
Higher Yield #	42.06	44.56†	+ 0.02	4.89
American Gth Inc	70.17	74.35	+ 0.01	..
European Growth	129.22	136.85	+ 0.52	..
(Accum Units)	131.87	139.54	+ 0.53	..
Global Bond Inc #	25.77	26.76†	+ 0.10	7.83
Managd Pnsn Inc	40.14	42.46	– 0.04	1.66
(Accum Units)	40.71	43.08	– 0.04	1.66
Pac Spec Opps	111.59	117.86	....	....
Pacific Gth	116.57	123.25	– 3.15	....
Formerly LAC				
UK General #	70.63	74.74†	+ 0.15	3.73
(Accum Units) #	72.33	76.54	+ 0.16	3.73
Gilt & Fxd Int	67.48	70.85	– 0.04	7.53
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.87	94.56†	+ 0.34	7.53
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
071 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.42	65.25	+ 0.10	6.51
C/S UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
081 837 9080				
Ration	148.70	158.10†	+ 0.20	1.72
UK Growth	158.30	168.50	– 0.20	2.40
UK Income	126.30	135.00	– 0.10	4.45
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0707 851 122				
Can Gen Dist	179.30	190.10	– 0.30	2.09
do- Income Dist	105.10	111.40	+ 0.60	4.45
(Accum Units)	317.10	336.10	+ 2.80	4.46
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.12	41.47	– 0.02	6.56
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
081 236 5685 Enq: 081 236 5685 Dlg: 081 236 5382				
American & Gen	143.10	152.30	+ 0.10	..
European Inc	74.14	78.50	+ 0.36	0.51
Smaller Cos (4-1)	77.30	82.24	+ 0.36	2.60
Growth	397.30	422.70	– 1.70	2.49
Income & Growth	365.30	403.50	– 0.70	4.08
(Accum Units)	541.20	575.80	– 1.10	4.08
Japan & Gen	73.58	78.12	– 0.39	..
Master Portfolio	698.21	3101.90†	+12.00	2.05
(Accum Units)	5117.20	5121.21	+15.00	2.05
Special Sits	95.25	96.02†	– 0.11	2.51
High Yield	512.57	512.76	– 2.00	4.51
For Capital Hoare see Newton				
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	78.48	83.72†	– 0.52	2.35
American Portfolio	85.20	90.79†	– 0.62	1.27

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Portfolio	91.48	97.45	– 0.58	0.61
Japanese Portfolio	68.09	70.17†	– 0.16	..
Pacific Portfolio	131.34	141.23†	– 1.26	0.71
UK Inc & Growth	72.48	77.79	– 0.48	3.46
Utility & Bond	54.65	54.65	– 0.25	7.51
CENT RD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
071 588 1815				
Inv Fund	645.05	651.10	..	4.75
Fxd Int Snc	147.10	147.45	..	9.83
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
071 382 5000				
UK Consul Ed	60.49	64.25†	– 0.26	3.89
CORP-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
071 588 1815				
Inc	636.52	640.19	..	4.68
Accum	727.23	727.25	..	9.69
Acc	119.59	119.75	..	..
(Accum Units)	185.16	185.45	..	..
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
071 637 7997				
Intl Growth	117.30	126.11†	..	..
Uk Income	103.05	113.14†	..	5.311
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
071 407 5999				
Backbone Ind	72.62	78.06	....	1.57
Back Bio-Tech	24.18	26.00†	+ 1.25	....
Accum Global Tst	144.66	152.48†	....	1.06
City Fin Assets	64.93	69.67	....	1.30
City Fin America	60.61	64.65	....	....
City Fin Intl	73.06	76.90	....	0.96
City Fin Japan	168.52	177.39†	....	....
Finan Hse Cap	259.72	282.74†	....	1.96
Finan Hse Inc	188.0	200.0	....	4.13
Stockley Wrld Gth	122.81	130.65	....	0.09
Talisman Cap Gth	130.76	139.10	– 2.14	..
Talisman Inc	143.29	152.44	– 2.65	..
City Fin Pcific Inc	51.08	54.34†	+ 0.21	4.41
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
071 771 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	52.57	55.57	+ 0.27	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 370 388				
American Gwth	53.25	56.56	+ 0.05	..
Allss Mngd Gwth	34.33	36.75	– 0.15	0.29
Dragon Growth	82.62	88.53	– 1.92	0.45
Equity High Inc	76.75	83.70††	– 0.04	4.10
(Accum Units)	185.66	112.62	– 0.06	4.10
Europrime Gwth	49.02	51.98	+ 0.13	0.89
Europrime	27.08	28.96	+ 0.08	..
General Equity	79.23	84.18	– 0.28	2.68
Gbl & Fxd Int Inc	53.54	54.76†	– 0.04	6.86
Japan Growth	52.03	55.65	– 0.05	..
Pedigree Gwth	47.91	50.97	– 0.10	2.74
Pfd Sm Cos Inc	29.62	30.67	– 0.06	1.21
(Accum Units)	30.15	32.07	– 0.07	1.20
Professional Inc #	34.84	36.43	– 0.01	5.00
Special Sits	36.07	38.37	– 0.01	2.68
UK & Overseas	45.32	48.21	– 0.15	1.35
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
0634 888 000				
Capital	63.30	67.69	– 0.40	2.36
Income	97.69	81.36	– 0.11	4.29
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PYT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	149.15	158.67	– 0.48	5.85
Fixed & Convertible	39.59	41.04†	+ 0.04	7.48
Monthly Inc Plus	47.01	50.01	....	9.96
Performance Shares	46.43	49.39†	+ 0.10	7.48
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	116.20	123.62†	– 0.38	7.54
Managed Fund	64.22	68.32	– 0.14	3.09
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	97.19	39.56	– 0.05	1.72
Capital Growth	42.59	45.27	– 0.04	1.72
UK & General	73.66	78.57	– 0.13	2.65
(Accum Units)	82.44	88.34	– 0.16	2.65
UK Growth	132.84	141.32	– 0.23	2.41
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	182.47	194.12	+ 0.27	0.25
Far Eastern Gth	124.98	132.96	– 0.77	..
Global Bond	74.91	79.68	– 0.08	6.36
Japan Growth	122.89	130.73	+ 0.12	..
North Amer Gth	158.19	168.16	+ 0.10	..
Oriental Growth	98.39	72.76	– 0.01	..
Worldwide Growth	81.97	87.15	– 0.08	0.08
(OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PYT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.53	97.53	+ 0.01	5.16
Homebuilder Fund	72.92	77.57	– 0.06	1.95
Quilter Fund	121.37	129.12	– 0.50	3.03
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
0438 744 040				
Growth Inc	54.91	58.41†	– 0.06	3.36
(Accum Units)	59.47	63.26	– 0.06	3.36
High Income	52.12	54.16	– 0.04	4.80
Japan	38.06	38.36	– 0.14	....
Smaller Cos Inc	28.19	31.05	+ 0.01	2.50
Smaller Cos	30.91	32.86	+ 0.01	2.50
North American	31.16	33.14	+ 0.01	0.60
European	35.51	37.77	+ 0.09	0.60
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
071 407 0999				
Consistent Ut	29.89	31.84	– 0.05	3.39
COORE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 350				
Growth	137.30	146.10	+ 0.30	2.05
Income	68.46	72.83	– 0.19	5.68
European	58.44	62.18†	– 0.02	1.16
Recovery	145.45	154.76	– 1.36	2.03
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
071 283 0494				
Equity Dist	776.29	788.30†	....	3.82
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
0277 688 370				
Fellowship Tst	69.51	72.88	+ 0.33	1.26
Income #	224.70	238.00	+ 0.01	4.97
(Accum Units) #	553.20	586.30	+ 1.30	4.97
Smaller Cos	148.00	157.30†	+ 0.60	0.61
(Accum Units)	182.26	193.86†	+ 0.80	0.61
Inc Portfolio	74.16	78.89	+ 0.12	1.51
High Inc Port #	85.04	89.19	– 0.06	5.91
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
071 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£14.95	£15.31†	+ 0.01	..
Japan Small Cos	£12.32	£12.58†	+ 0.10	..
UK Small Cos	£17.06	£17.45†	+ 0.10	..
US Small Cos	£15.49	£15.90	+ 2.10	..
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
071 377 8818				
Disc Inc	205.20	213.90†	....	2.85
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
031 555 1500				
European Growth	266.10	275.00	+ 1.80	1.01
New Asia	191.20	200.50	+ 2.60	0.17
Japan Growth	129.80	136.50	– 0.20	..
Jap Small Co	455.40	355.60	+ 0.20	..
Nth Amer	267.10	281.60	– 1.30	0.60
Shield Asia Pac Inc	107.10	113.30	– 1.30	0.40
UK Inc & Gth	200.00	213.50	– 0.80	3.11
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
0242 577 855				
UK Balanced Inc	131.90	140.30†	– 0.18	1.91
UK High Inc Inc	140.70	149.70	+ 0.30	4.81
(Accum Units)	168.20	197.70	+ 0.30	4.81
UK Fxd & Fl Inc	56.47	58.09†	+ 0.12	5.32
Emerald Opps	80.16	85.20	+ 0.07	1.10
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 525				
American	115.30	122.20	....	1.43
Convertibles #	19.75	20.98†	– 0.05	6.97
Equity Income #	119.10	126.50†	– 1.00	4.19
Euro Fund	43.99	46.61†	– 0.01	0.44
Financial	41.44	44.03	+ 0.03	1.70
Growth & Inc #	220.90	234.70	– 1.50	3.28
High Dist #	144.80	153.90	– 1.00	4.87
International	208.00	220.40	– 1.50	0.13
Ind Dep Inc	87.23	93.12†	– 0.67	5.95
Latin American	29.33	31.16	+ 1.15	..
Pacific	75.05	79.74	– 1.40	..
Preference Share	21.66	23.01†	– 0.05	7.17
Tokyo	229.10	243.40	+ 0.80	..
UK Smaller Cos	215.30	228.80	+ 0.30	1.29
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
071 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	202.11	215.78	+ 1.25	1.84
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 575 7281				
Endurance Fd	163.50	701.80	– 2.0	0.95
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0256 451 480				
European	75.36	79.26	– 0.33	1.57
Ethical Tst	42.40	44.69†	– 0.23	1.25
Far Eastern	281.40	296.30	– 2.90	2.02
High Income	173.50	182.14	– 0.73	4.56
Intl Growth	113.83	119.98	– 0.64	1.40
North American	102.71	108.12	– 0.71	1.35
Pelican	109.84	115.62	– 0.65	3.39
Smaller Cos	88.45	93.63†	– 0.11	2.53
Special Sits	83.73	88.16	– 0.07	2.50
1st of inv Tsts	174.78	183.98	– 0.82	1.57
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 487 5999				
Smaller Cos Inc	197.54	205.77	+ 0.31	1.42
Smaller Cos Acc	345.84	360.04	+ 0.52	1.42
Recovery	59.85	62.97†	+ 0.13	1.34
Recovery Acc	51.41	53.56†	+ 0.14	1.34
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0392 412 144				
Balanced	106.40	113.19	– 0.05	6.14
Capital Growth	78.97	81.58	+ 0.11	..
Fd of Inv Trsts	42.53	45.15†	– 0.01	0.64
High Income #	41.24	44.20†	+ 0.02	10.41
Managed	51.58	54.67	+ 0.08	..
Zero Preference	38.24	39.45†	+ 0.03	..
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0273 220 797				
Family Asset Tst	72.96	77.81†	+0.250	2.54
Family Income Tst	45.47	48.47†	+0.060	6.14
Family Trust	78.62	84.69†	+0.190	1.39
United Charities	251.50	257.50	+1.000	3.39
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Dealings: Private Clients: 0800 414 181				
Cash	100.00	100.00	....	5.40
Core Fund				
Core Fund	100.00	100.00	....	5.40
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.16	26.254	+ 0.03	7.96
Int Bond	27.15	28.15	+ 0.10	5.49
Income Funds				
High Income	24.34	25.871	....	5.17
Income Plus	108.69	113.40	+ 0.30	4.29
Amer Gr Inc	44.77	47.46	+ 0.03	1.54
European Income	40.20	42.75	+ 0.12	1.89
Far East Inc	58.75	62.58	– 0.01	0.32
Global Convertible	22.00	23.47†	– 0.01	3.78
Uk Dv Exn	23.01	24.47	– 0.01	7.88
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	44.24	46.99	– 2.92	..
Amer Gr	228.30	241.90	– 0.20	..
Amer Spec Sits	109.10	116.40	+ 0.10	..
Japan Smaller Cos	49.72	43.44	+ 0.26	..
European	161.90	171.90	+ 0.50	..
European Opps	69.12	69.93	+ 0.26	....
Global Pen	23.98	24.65	– 0.04	1.17
UK Growth	84.61	90.20	– 0.01	..
Growth & Inc	132.10	140.50†	– 0.10	2.54
Intl PEP	34.84	37.05	– 0.03	....
Japan Spec Sits	93.45	98.43	+ 0.16	....
Japan	156.40	200.30	+ 0.10	....
Managed Intl	262.70	279.10	....	....
Managed Inc	98.28	53.57	– 0.02	....
Recovery	45.52	48.40	+ 0.01	....
Smlr E Asia	126.40	137.00	– 0.80	....
Special Sits	465.40	516.20	+ 0.10	....
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	107.77	107.77	+ 0.01	5.40
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
071 814 2700				
Balanced #	129.80	132.60	....	1.69
Inc Plans #	81.33	82.94†	– 0.08	4.85
City Plans	126.60	137.09†	– 0.10	0.75
General Opps	115.90	118.10	....	3.55
Growth Inc	28.77	29.49	– 0.06	1.81
Private Portfolio	360.00	365.00	....	1.52
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 291 010				
Japan Foreign & Colonial				
Compound	105.00	112.00	+ 0.20	0.55
Emrg Asian	153.00	157.00	– 2.10	..
High Income	29.60	32.09†	+ 0.02	10.19
Ocean Income	88.64	92.62†	+ 0.28	3.09

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	101.40	108.70†	– 0.30	1.72
US Income	330.10	347.70	– 0.20	4.33
US Smaller Cos	297.70	307.70	– 0.20	..
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
071 407 5999				
High Inc Eqty	46.97	48.341	+ 0.02	3.36
do- Inv Tst Inc	77.47	79.15	– 0.05	4.39
Intl Growth	97.02	70.47		1.31
Investment Trust	65.22	69.72	– 0.01	..
UK Smaller Cos	77.15	81.12†	– 0.02	1.02
FRANLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
071 374 4100				
American Growth	32.79	35.15	+ 0.03	..
(Acc



PUBLISHING page 32
A giant advance for writers, or for one writer? Ethics of the Amis deal considered

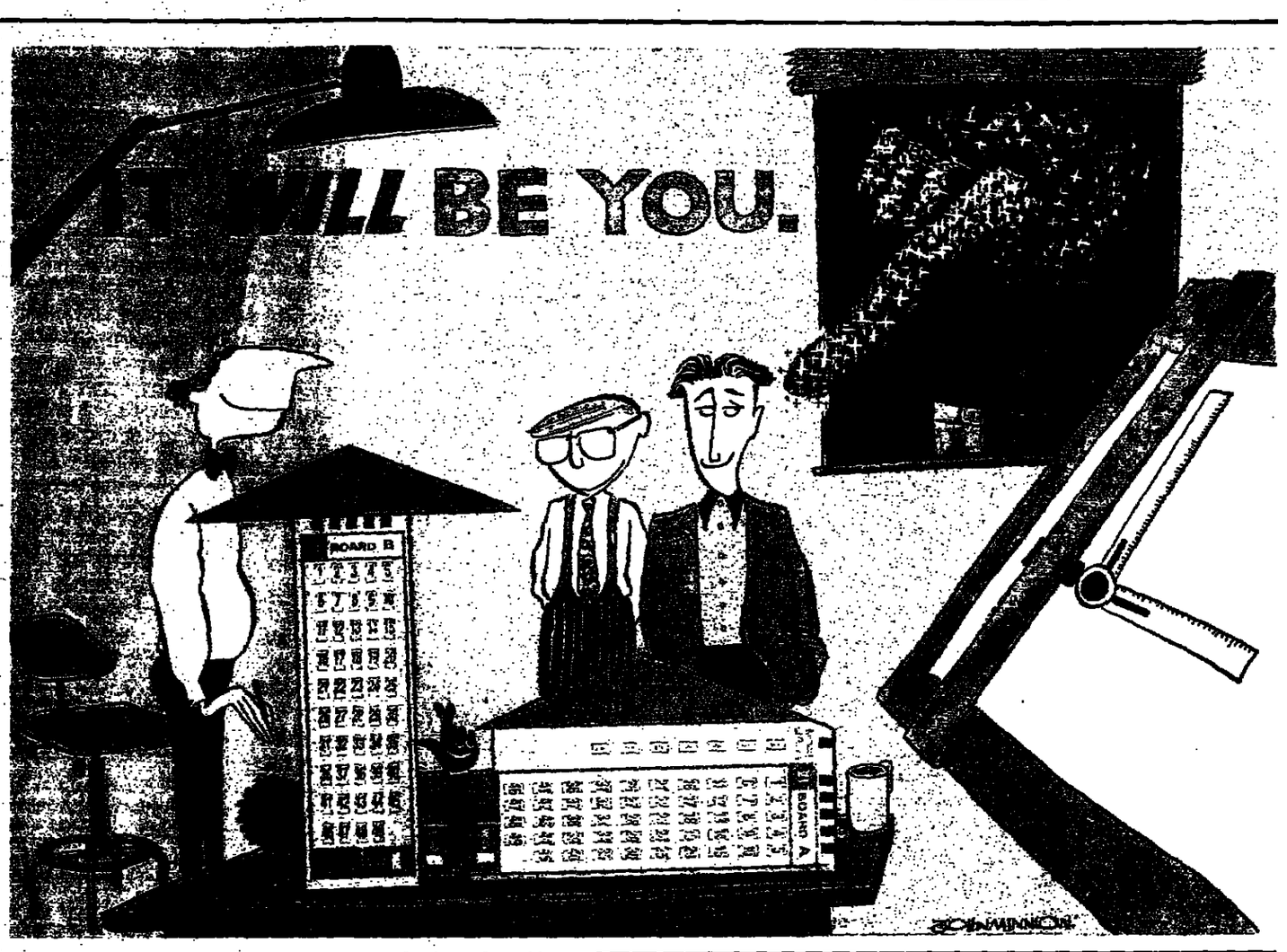
ARTS

POP page 33
The unlikeliest punk survivors: Siouxsie and the Banshees bring out a romantic new album



Building on a lottery windfall

Which architects will be the big winners when the cash starts flowing in from Britain's gambling fever? **Marcus Binney** investigates



Architects have struck gold. Suddenly the most embattled of Britain's professions is confronted with a bonanza of commissions that should provide spectacular scope for adventurous and unusual design.

The astonishing fact is that the National Lottery could provide up to £1 billion of new architectural work each year. At the end of the first seven weeks, Camelot paid a total of £96.5 million into the bank accounts of the five good causes — arts, sports, heritage, charities and the Millennium Fund — where it is now accumulating interest at prime rates. Each should have £150 million to spend in 1995. Indeed, the Millennium Fund alone estimates it will have £1.2 billion over the next six years, and this is still a cautious £400 million below the Camelot estimate.

Charities, of course, will not be putting money in architects' pockets. But architects stand to benefit from the other good causes, because the main emphasis is on capital projects: spanking new buildings or well-restored and adapted old ones. Applicants will be expected to contribute money from other sources, thus doubling the funds available.

So who is applying? A spokesman for the Millennium Fund says: "We've had proposals for a national science centre at Farnborough, a permanent home for the Edinburgh Festival, a Gaelic centre on Skye. The Imperial War Museum wants to move part of its collection to Hartlepool. There are plans for fountains, sun dials, a new church and countless village and community halls." The Arts Council fund, meanwhile, will support theatres, opera houses, dance space, concert halls and art galleries.

The Sports Council places the same emphasis on buildings. Geraint John explains: "At one end there are proposals like the new national stadium for Manchester. At the other, simple changing rooms for small clubs, indoor facilities for judo and table tennis, and in between gymnasiums and swimming pools."

The initial emphasis, says John, will be on participation, not provision for spectators. "We want to improve the quality of sports buildings across the nation. In the past, for obvious reasons, the tendency was to produce a lot of low-cost buildings. Now we have the chance to provide better, well-designed buildings which will be easier to maintain." So far the Sports Council has received 11,000 inquiries.

Many people are under the impression that the lottery money has already been spent several times over. The popular misconception is that between them, the British Museum, the Royal Opera House, English National Opera, the South Kensington museums, the Tate's Bankside project and the South Bank will swallow up the Millennium Fund.

> There are plans for fountains, sun dials, a church...

It is true that the Millennium Fund is planning to spend half its money on "a dozen major capital projects across the UK — the landmarks of the 21st century". That makes a staggering £50 million per project. But the Royal Opera House and the South Bank are applying to the Arts Council, not the Millennium Fund, and the British Museum to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

This leaves space for 69 projects on the scale of the proposed Cardiff Opera House all round the country. The most ambitious yet floated is Magnus Linklater's scheme to put a roof over Waverley station in Edinburgh, one of the city's great eyesores, with a new "New Town" between the existing old and new towns. Newcastle has plans for a millennium boulevard. Leeds talks of a giant gate over the motorway as it enters the city.

Below this level, the Millennium Fund will be supporting a host of projects of more local significance, with contributions of between £100,000 and £15 million. Here is a real opportunity for genuine eccentricity: for a new range of town and country towers and follies, for instance. Not all architecture has to possess a puritanical utilitarianism.

First in the queue for this sort of project is the architect Ian Ritchie, with a scheme for a £21 million Meridian Cosmosphere at Greenwich (he is asking the Millennium Fund for £15 million). This is a spectacular 360-degree version of the planetarium, inside a giant globe.

Another wild card is Will Alsop's proposal to build a new ICA gallery out across the Thames on the pillars of old Blackfriars railway bridge.

Sceptics believe that the big projects will go to a handful of architectural knights. Foster has the British Museum and South Kensington; Rogers the South Bank. But both are likely to decline further large projects, since they would be competing with themselves and reducing their existing clients' chances of a successful bid.

The big difference today is that architecture is no longer dominated by big commercial practices, as it was in the Sixties and Seventies. Talent is winning out, thanks to the competition system in Europe where a host of young British architects have won commissions.

Rory Coonan, of the Arts Council, who helped to shape the lottery criteria, says: "We are determined to put an end to the golf club syndrome, by which an architect is chosen on the basis of a round of drinks at a bar." All the criteria stress the need for good design. The question is, who decides what good design is?

The dominant style in British architecture today is high-tech — all glass walls and soaring steel roofs. The lottery offers the opportunity to widen the choice, and a chance for architects outside London to get the limelight as well as the jobs.

For a really striking landmark, go to John Outram, designer of the exotic new pumping station on the Isle of Dogs and of Britain's most modern house, for the Rausing family in Sussex. Or try Nigel Coates, best known for his shops and nightclubs.

If you want a landmark for the 20th century there is Future Systems, whose space-age designs have until now been too far ahead of their time to build. But with the super-sophistication of modern British engineering they are becoming practical. One of the most exciting schemes of this kind is the millennium tower proposed for Glasgow. Designed by Richard Horden, architect of the new grandstand at Epsom, this will orientate itself according to the prevailing wind.

For a more traditional approach there is the elegant simplicity of Demetri Porphyrios, or the Palladian and Regency perfection of Quinlan Terry and John Simpson. A wave of younger architects including James Gorst and Liam O'Connor also believe in the virtues of classical proportion and traditional materials.

The lottery offers the best-ever chance for architects to change their public image. There has never been a time when the adventurous has had a better chance of being built.

CONCERTS: Ambitious opera; new music for string octet

Fill in the spaces

CBSO/Elder
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

IN EXTENDING his experience and his reputation beyond the opera house Mark Elder's concerts as Chief Guest Conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra have been particularly important. Whatever he has wanted to do, it seems, no matter how extravagant — even Mahler's Eighth Symphony — he has had the resources to carry it out. And the bigger the work, the more convincing the interpretation.

It was a dubiously wise strategy on his part, however, to bring opera to Symphony Hall by conducting the CBSO in a concert performance of Puccini's *Il Tabarro*. It was not an unrewarding experience — far from it. But that was the problem: Elder's authority in the second half of the concert was so obvious and effective that it made his Ravel and his Delius in the first half seem weak in comparison.

The transition between the orchestral and the operatic repertoire — from *Paris: Song of a Great City* to *Il Tabarro* — was neatly made.

Ravel's *Alborada del Gracioso* was superfluous not so much because it didn't fit in with the Parisian theme as because Elder's account of it was lacking in idiomatic presence and, in the central serenade, in characterisation. All the notes were there, if imperfectly articulated in the brass from time to time, but there was nothing between and around them but blank spaces.



Mark Elder: taking opera to Symphony Hall

The performance of the Delius score did create some atmosphere while producing variably poetic reactions in an orchestra apparently not totally convinced of the composer's inspiration here. But when the lights went up on the Seine as Puccini conceived it, the reality of the scene was uncanny. This was before the entry of any of the voices and before the unfolding of any element of the story. Although it cannot be true that Mark Elder needs the stimulus of a dramatic situation to set his imagination working, it apparently helps.

There is a stimulus, too, in work with a team of singers, particularly the one assembled on this occasion. The tenor originally appointed to the clandestine-lover role of Luigi was indisposed but Emil Ivanov deputised for him most lyrically and, as the object of his affections, Giorgetta, Olga Romanko smouldered passionately if a little indiscriminately in matters of pitch. Phillip Joll was impressively angry as her jealous husband and, in the passer-by role of Frugola, Anne-Marie Owens introduced a welcome and colourful touch of what used to be known as vulgarity.

GERALD LARNER

Nice is no compliment

ASMF Chamber Ensemble
Wigmore Hall

LAST week I chanced to hear John Mortimer talking about how very nice the Prime Minister had been to him in a social context. He was not delivering a compliment. Neither am I when I write that the Australian composer Ross Edwards's string octet *Veni Creator Spiritus*, given its UK premiere by the Academy of St Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble last Tuesday, was also very nice.

My objection to this pair of movements is not based on the fact that they are both determinedly tonal, cast in an outdated language not dissimilar to that of Vaughan Williams. It is that the work seems to wallow in that very fact. For Edwards the evolution of music for most of this century might not have happened. The world is comfortable and nothing disturbs him, save the rustling of insects (none of which bite), romanticised resonances from the past (dominated by the hymn-chant on which the whole work is based), and, in the second movement, a dance which recalls earlier Tippett without his angular tartness. But that, you might argue, is a good thing when so much of what we hear today sounds so complicated and obscure. Nonsense. There is a disturbing tendency nowadays to prize that which does not challenge us in contemporary music. Easy sounds are what sell records and occupy our backgrounds. Music is far more important than that, and surely has some duty to reflect a condition other than the cosy middle-class values which this piece seems to champion.

But he writes with sure craftsmanship and self-confidence, and here the players of the ASMF Chamber Ensemble delivered it with the right lushness. They gave a highly polished performance of Mozart's D major String Quintet, K 593; to end it there was a deeply satisfying reading of Brahms's Sextet in B flat, Op 18, all ripeness and substance.

STEPHEN PETTITT

THEATRE: Canadian drama offers love by moonlight



MARILYN KINGWILL

Nicola Stephenson as Mary, and Daniel Copeland as the wanderer, Jacob, who tries to woo her back

Stars in their eyes

Salt-Water Moon
Attic, SW19

Beyond the sturdy front door and the rocker motionless on the porch of Michael Taylor's set a huge pale semicircle breasts the horizon. It looks as if it must be the moon of the title, and some of the time it could be, but at other times pinpricks of light shine from its misty depths and it becomes a panorama of the night sky.

The stars are shining down on Coley's Point, a small Newfoundland community 100 miles from St John's, where 17-year-old Mary Snow is in service to a local MP. She has learnt about the stars from her schoolteacher fiancé, whom we never see, but a year ago she had thought that young Jacob Mercer loved her. He left abruptly for Toronto and has never written. Tonight she hears him singing on the road and a moment later he is at the porch, carrying a battered suitcase but sporting a fancy hat, evidently expecting to resume the interrupted romance. But Mary is a shrewd, passionate young woman, deeply offended by his departure.

David French's play is one of four that explore the lives of these characters from 1926, the time of *Salt-Water Moon*, forward to the 1960s. This one was written in 1984 but the first of his plays was produced in 1972. All have been successfully staged in Canada, along with other plays outside the sequence, but this production by Stage One Theatre Company is his first work to be seen in this country, and arrives in Wimbledon after a tour of Britain and Ireland.

It is an attractive piece, especially in the character it draws of Mary, luminously played by Nicola Stephenson in her first role on the London stage. Her previous work has mainly been on television where, in *Brookside*, she was on the receiving side of the first prime-time lesbian kiss. From the moment when Daniel Copeland's Jacob comes to stand behind her, ostensibly to be shown the blue star Vega, her longing for him is evident, struggling against her wounded pride and her desire for a practical marriage. Her long speech describing the misery her sister undergoes at her orphanage is shot through with a trembling anger before which Jacob can only be silent. But elsewhere her responses zigzag between a brave banter and reluctantly admitted affection, her eyes now flickering nervously, now flashing fire.

French is softer with the character of Jacob, allowing him to escape tough questions and rely on anger to express the energy of his feelings. Copeland discovers the streak of sadism in his character, hinting at the tyrant he will later, it seems, become. The play is lucidly directed by Richard Osborne and I hope we shall see other plays in the sequence. It is reassuring to learn that the Canadian scene is not an urban hell of desperate sex, serial killers and shopping mall angst.

JEREMY KINGSTON

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF BRITAIN.
Fairest Isle
THE NATION'S MUSIC, CULTURE AND HISTORY EXPLORED IN A SPECIAL YEAR-LONG FESTIVAL.

مكتبة من الأعلى

LONDON

OTELLO: The Royal Opera's latest revival of Elijah Moshinsky's handsome production opens tonight with a top-notch cast. Dennis O'Neill takes on the Moor for the first time, Elena Prokina is Desdemona and Sergei Leiferkus is Iago. Carlo Rizzi conducts. **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-304 4000). Tonight, 7.30pm Ⓢ

LONDON INTERNATIONAL MIME FESTIVAL. The annual celebrations open with what looks like a fascinating production of *Ghost Sonata*, Strindberg's dream-like drama of corruption and fear. Performed by Sweden's Manonetteatern with top-hatted actors and exquisite puppets. **Purcell Room**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tomorrow-Wed, 8pm

HINDEMITH THE REBEL: The BBC has mustered up a terrific line-up of colours and ensembles for its three-day festival devoted to rehabilitating the composer who once ranked alongside Stravinsky, Schoenberg and Bartók. Andrew Davis, Ian Pascal Tortelier and Markus Stenz conduct. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm, and throughout the weekend Ⓢ

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

ELSEWHERE

CARDIFF: Kathryn Stott joins the **BBC National Orchestra of Wales** for a night of great romantic Russian music. Tonight's programme includes works from Borodin, Rachmaninov and Prokofiev. David Atherton conducts. The orchestra moves to London tomorrow for a concert of Williams, Beethoven and Prokofiev; Atherton conducts and Peter Donohoe is the soloist. **St David's Hall**, The Hayes Ⓢ (0222 371236). Tonight, 7.30pm. **Croydon**, Fairfield Ⓢ (081-688 9291). Sat, 8pm.

HUDDERSFIELD: Conductor Bernhard Klee takes the **Hallé Orchestra** on the road this weekend for a programme of Mozart's Piano Concerto in A, K488 and Bruckner's Symphony No 4. Charles Rosen is the soloist. **Town Hall**, Ramsden Street (01484 430808). Tomorrow, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

LEEDS: **Opera North** attempts another dramatic coup this weekend when William Walton's *Troilus and Cressida* receives its first showing for nearly 20 years. His only full-length opera is based on Chaucer's epic poem set against the Trojan War. Matthew Warchus directs the new production and Richard Hickox conducts. With Judith Howarth, Arthur Davies, Nigel Robson and Alan Opie. **Grand**, New Briggate (0113 245 9351/244 0971). Tomorrow and Mon, 7.15pm. Pre-performance talk, 6.15pm. Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum. Byzantine Treasures from British Collections. Japanese Imperial Craftsmen, final week (071-636 1555). **National Portrait Gallery:** Christina Rossetti (071-306 0055). **National Gallery:** The Young Michelangelo, final week (071-839 3321). **Royal Academy:** The Painted Page (071-439 7438). **Serpentine:** Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075). **Tate:** Clore Gallery: Rebecca Horn (071-887 8000). **V & A, Vaughan:** Indian Popular Painting 1600-1930, final week; Warworks: Women, Photography and the Art of War (071-938 8500). **Whitechapel:** Worlds in a Box (071-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
Ⓢ **Some seats available**
□ ***Seats at all prices***

Ⓢ AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' The Fats Waller musical show: an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance. **Tricycle**, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (071-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, 4pm Ⓢ

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE** Nigel Hawthorne amusing as the crapulated Lord Ogleby but his direction prettifies and diminishes the play. Some clever supporting performances. **Queens**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. Performances cancelled Jan 16 and 17

Ⓢ **THE DANCE OF DEATH** Rare stage appearance by John Neville as Strindberg's infuriated husband, with Gemma Jones playing his comparably furious wife. Peter Stormare directs. **Almeida**, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Now previewing, 8pm; opens Jan 17, 7pm. Until Mar 4. Ⓢ

□ **FASCINATING AIDA.** The girls are back with an evening of glamour, quick wits and sharp tongues. **Garrick**, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 8pm. Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm. Until Jan 21

■ **LEAVE TAKING** Touring production of Winsome Pinnock's 1987 play: a West Indian woman and her adored daughters consult an obeah woman to cleanse their obsession with the past.

■ **SALVATION.** Tim Luscombe directs a strong cast in the London Gay Theatre Co's staging of a Joe Pintauro double-bill. *Swans Flying* looks at fate, religious experiences and food. *The Raft of the Medusa* explores attitudes to Aids. **Gate**, Pembridge Palace Rd, W11 (071-229 0706). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

■ **THREE TALL WOMEN** Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits petrify into grim old age. Superb performances in Edward Albee's powerful drama. **Wyndhams**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA:** Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath and words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht". **Donmar Warehouse**, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm Ⓢ

□ **THE VENETIAN TWINS.** Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins; Ranjit Bolt translates. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm Ⓢ

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN (PG) Delectable mosaic of Taipei family life from the director of *The Wedding Banquet*, Ang Lee. **Chelsea** (071-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (071-369 1722) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3566)

◆ **KILLING ZOE** (18) Callous and showy bank robbery tale, with Eric Stoltz and Jean-Hugues Anglade. Written and directed by Roger Avary. **MGMs: Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

◆ **NOSTRADAMUS** (15). Life and prophecies of the 16th-century legend. Preposterous Euro-pudding, with Tcheky Karyo and Amanda Plummer. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914665) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

LA REINE MARGOT (18). Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director, Patrice Chéreau. **Curzon Mayfair** (071-369 1720) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914665) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

TOTALLY F*ED UP:** Doleful, zero-budget experimental film about six gay LA teenagers. Director, Gregg Araki. **ICA** Ⓢ (071-930 3647)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15). Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (071-498 3323) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Richmond** (081-332 0030)

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES (15). Unwieldy version of Tom Robbins's zany novel from cult director Gus Van Sant. Uma Thurman heads a cameo-strewn cast. **Electric** Ⓢ (071-792 2020/0328) **Metro** (071-437 0757) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

MY FAIR LADY (U): Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery. **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279)

SHALLOW GRAVE (18) Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs. **Gate** Ⓢ (071-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15) Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. Luis Llosa directs. **Clapham Picture House** (071-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG). Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun, with Jaye Davidson. Director, Roland Emmerich. **Clapham Picture House** (071-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 553) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U) Absorbing film of Andre Gregory's treatment of "Uncle Vanya", caught in rehearsal by Louis Malle's cameras at a decrepit New York theatre. Wallace Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and George Gaynes head the fine cast. **Barbican** Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **Curzon Phoenix** (071-369 1721)

An advance taken amiss

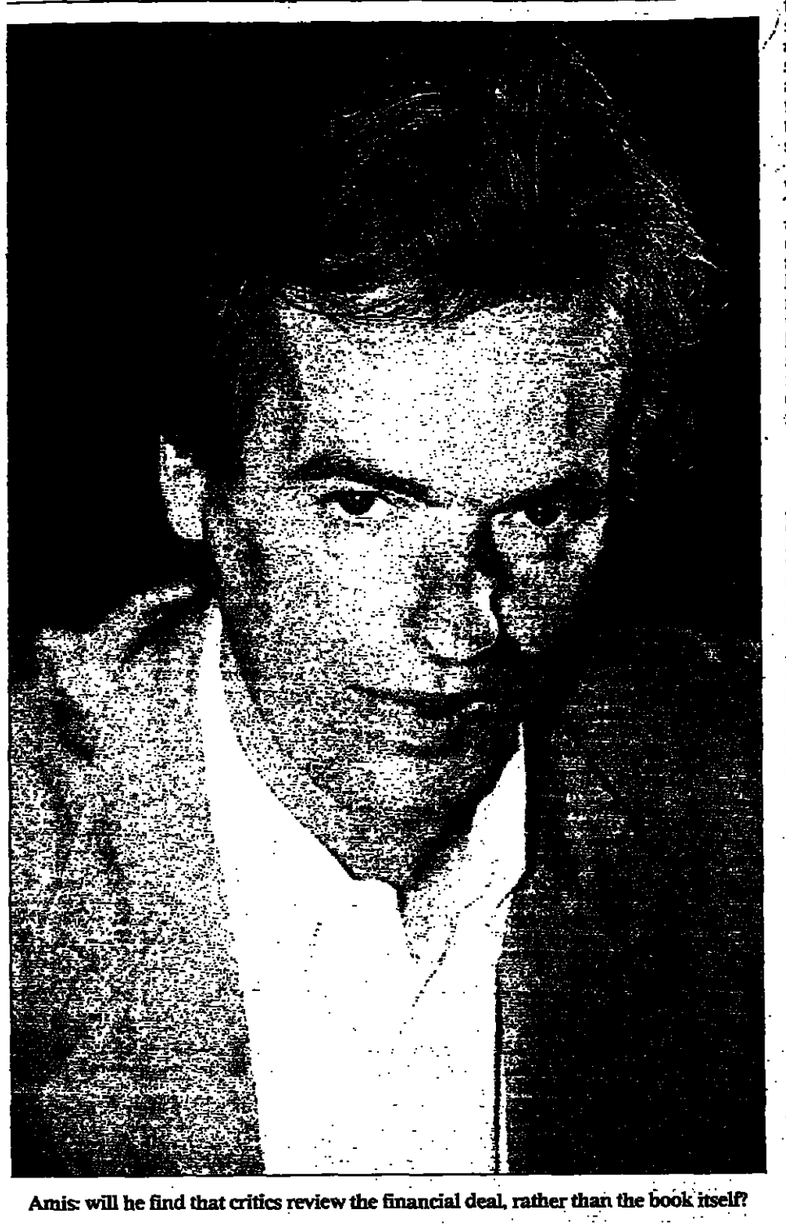
Nicolette Jones on the implications for the publishing world of HarperCollins's new £500,000 investment

Poor little rich Martin Amis. HarperCollins has forked out close to the £500,000 he asked for his new novel, *The Information*, cajoled by his American agent Andrew "The Jackal" Wylie. Amis has his loot, and, some will say, has confirmed his worth. But others will use it against him. The story will henceforth become a part of his reputation, ammunition for detractors. Is a reputation for avarice worth the money?

Amis's price tag on his own talent was not in fact unreasonable. Commercially, he had a nerve — given that, on the basis of sales of his previous books, *The Information* is unlikely to earn back its advance. But as HarperCollins's bid proves, publishers are prepared to pay for the kudos of an exceptional writer on their list.

And they may even make money. *The Information* may not sell enough copies to earn back £500,000 *through the ten* per cent of the cover price that is normally the author's share, but sales may generate enough cash to recoup a large amount. As one agent explained it: "It is sometimes possible for a publisher to write off about *half* an advance and still make a profit."

If a top footballer can be worth £7 million for his footwork and his ability to draw a crowd, Amis can surely make similar claims. At least he has the footwork. It is just that, in literature, those with the greatest skill don't always (or even often) command the highest rewards.



Amis: will he find that critics review the financial deal, rather than the book itself?

What's more, a writer's career *can be as uncertain* and finite as a footballer's. A lot of money at one time may cover the dearths of other years. Amis's advance represents several years' work on this book alone, and he has done a long apprenticeship. Lawyers who train with pitiful incomes feel justified in raking it in later. Why should a writer not be reimbursed for the experience of a lifetime?

What of the claim that such a large advance steals from other authors? A.S. Byatt, who occupied the highest moral ground over this, suggested *that if Amis's previous publisher* Random House (also her own) paid what he asked for, *she* would be subsidising his dental work. But Amis may have struck a blow for the serious writer who devotes his life to the craft. As one publisher points out, a first novelist is more likely to get an advance of this scale than a writer of Amis's stature. Publishers do their sums on the basis of a track record, when they *know* what an author has sold. *Unknowns can be hyped to the* skies.

Amis, however, has made a case for putting a value on skill, which publishers rarely venture to do. As Patrick Janson-Smith of Transworld (which made an unsuccessful bid for Amis's book), says: "We have plenty of authors who are worth more than they are paid. It doesn't mean we don't love them, but we have to look at the market." Amis has achieved financial recognition *for a different kind of worth.*

Andrew Wylie himself has also cast such demands in the light of a worthy crusade. *When he achieved an* $350,000 advance for Salman Rushdie some years ago, he argued that if publishers could be persuaded to pay big sums for good novels they would promote and sell them with the energy they otherwise devoted to bad ones. More people would read real literature. He, and Amis, are therefore doing *society a service.*

Cash apart, it is probably to himself that Amis has done the greatest disservice. One agent predicts that the book won't "earn out or earn up": pay off the advance or justify more money next time. This makes Amis's career more precarious in the long term.

The same agent also mutters that money is not always the main consideration in choosing a publisher. Publishers at large disliked the fact that Amis bypassed his respected agent, Pat Kavanagh, and brought in Wylie. "Why should he be able to achieve anything Pat couldn't?" was the refrain, and there is bound to be lingering resentment of such behaviour.

Amis is also up against it with the public and the media. The timing of his request was unfortunate, perhaps, because even some admirers of his talent felt a moral outrage that he should earn so much just now. Put bluntly, they didn't want a chap who had recently left his wife and children for another woman to enjoy such rewards. This personal criticism *is implicit, for instance,* in A.S. Byatt's remarks.

And, unfairly, there is always a bad reaction when literary writers express interest in cash. Jim Crace, whose latest publishing deal has widely and quite erroneously been compared to Amis's, complains about this. Crace, incidentally, was offered £400,000 for *world rights* in three books over five years. A substantial chunk went retrospectively to pay back his previous publisher for rights already bought; Crace will *earn nothing* more from foreign rights, film rights or a serialisation; and what's left puts him on a reasonable but not immoderate *salary. Amis*, by contrast, sold British rights alone; the rest is yet to come.

Crace points out that the bestseller lists are full of writers who earn more than £500,000 a book, and who make "no contribution to literature". But he continues: "Writers are not allowed to be serious and greedy. They can only be flippant and greedy." Serious writers, he says, "occupy moral ground" and therefore have to live, in the *public perception*, like clergymen, beyond reproach.

Amis faces a final hazard. When *The Information* is published, he will probably not be the first high-earning writer to find that his advance is being reviewed instead of his book. Critics may work out their resentment in their supposedly objective assessments. It is ironic, give that *The Information* is all about literary jealousy. "I wouldn't have taken the risk with a book on *that subject*," says Crace. "The people who have already displayed the feelings that the book is about are also going to be the ones to respond to it." Perhaps even *Money* can't buy love.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1. 10-6 Daily. Recorded info 071 439 4996/7 CC 071 497 9977 (bkg. fee) THE PAINTED PAGE: Italian Renaissance Book Illumination.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 071 928 8800 English National Ballet THE NUTCRACKER Until 14 January Eves 7.30pm, Mats (11 & 14 Jan) 2.30pm. No perfs Sun

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The New Tap Musical
'BRILLIANT, BREATHLESS SEQUENCES' Daily Mail

POP ON FRIDAY: Upwardly mobile tips . . . punks gently reformed . . . and a case of feet in both camps

How to scam your way to the top

There are only two routes to success in the pop business — and one of those is a bit too much like hard work



CAITLIN MORAN

At about the same age that boys start to forget to wash, they begin to harbour increasingly feverish fantasies about Being in a Band. Nothing constructive ever comes from these fantasies. Generally, the biggest effort made towards fame is sitting in the middle of a traffic island some way out into the suburbs, swigging from four-litre bottles of cider with a couple of equally tatty mates, and rambling on about "The Music Business" and "getting our act together" until one starts to stagger around, play some air-guitar, fall over, and gently roll down the bank, whereupon his head hits the tarmac in the path of an oncoming bus.

In this way, natural selection ensures that the chances of Greater Pondlife entering the Glittering Citadel of Pop are still slim. There are only two ways of doing it — and neither of those is recording a brilliant demo-tape (four tracks) and sending it off to record companies with "etc. brief biog and photo (8x10 glossy)", as is generally recommended in books on "Making it Big in the Music Industry". Only Tears for Fears got a deal this way, and who would want to sound like them? So here, courtesy of your caring, sharing newspaper, are those two only ways of Making it in the Music Business.

1) The Difficult, Authentic Way. Only really for those who actively enjoy the smell of Transit vans, who thrive on a diet of lukewarm lager (with cigarette ends dropped in it) and chips, and gain a feeling of security by falling asleep with the drummer's foot in your mouth, with Doc Marten still attached, due to lack of space. The Difficult, Authentic Way entails touring endlessly for at least seven years — spending your life on motorways trying to find the legendary Rayleigh Pink venue with the aid of a lighted match and a 1963 A-Z.

Bands of Celtic, Liverpudlian and Mancunian origin tend to opt for this method of fame, as they are generally from Catholic families. Catholic equals 16 brothers and sisters and several million aunts and uncles, so these bands already have a head start in the Getting an Audience stakes.

Also, Catholic aunts make marvellous roadies. There is nothing like bringing up eight children during the Blitz on nothing but half a pound of dripping to tone up those amp-carrying muscles. Bands that have done it the Hard, Authentic Way: Dodgy, James, The Wonderstuff, Shed Seven, The Beatles.

2) The Scam on Toast Way. Scams are great. Scams are what make pop music exciting. Scams are things your parents don't understand. Scams look stupid in retrospect — but, hell, pop music isn't about retrospection. Last time I looked, rock music was about Sex! Love! Having A Fag! Wearing Clothes That Leave You Vulnerable To Chill Winds! And Lots Of Capital Letters!

Scams are, generally, very easy to go about. Music journalists are the target, and music journalists lead very dull lives. These days, if a band does anything apart from play gigs, record albums and release albums, it's considered a scam, and bored music journalists will pounce on it.

Famous scams of the past include: everything the Sex Pistols ever did; the Stone Roses only giving one interview with their new album, to *The Big Issue*; the Manic Street Preachers vowing in their first interviews that they would split up after their first album, and then not doing so at any point in the intervening three years; and one record company, who shall remain anonymous, taking seven important music journalists on a "coke and smoke" to Derby around the time of one of their artists' comeback albums — which, oddly enough, was voted Album of the Year some months later.

One of 1993's biggest bands, Oasis, got signed as the direct result of an unwitting scam. The (at that time) unknown Oasis were playing seventh on the bill in Glasgow when they heard that Creation Records' supremo Alan McGee was in the building. Ten minutes later, they were informed that they couldn't play that night, as the rest of the bands were running behind time. So the ever-resourceful Mancunians entered into a, ahem, *physical exchange of views* with the promoter, and threatened to set fire to the building if they weren't allowed to play. Alan McGee was so impressed with their set, and their bravado, that he jumped up on stage and offered them a deal on the spot.

If you are in a band at the moment, and hungering for a bevvy of lovely cheque-book waving record company people, go about it the Scam Way. Find music journalists at gigs, and become their friend. Most music journalists are grateful for anyone who comes up to them who isn't either someone that they slagged off in print last week, or alternatively a bouncer. They will probably be pathetically glad that someone is being kind to them.

Once you have a couple of hacks in your pocket, record a couple of demos, invite your journo friend to a pre-selected venue, and do something "outrageous" — setting fire to orphans in a public place usually suffices — and distribute the demo tapes to the onlookers. Then wait for those offers to roll in. And when you do eventually own Barbados, remember who told you how to do it first. Me.

The taming of the Sioux

NEW ALBUMS: **David Sinclair** on a transformed punk band, and more emotional catharsis from Kristin Hersh

SIOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES
The Rapture
(Wonderland/Polydor 523725)

NO FUTURE! That was the slogan of the punk generation in 1976. And they weren't too keen on the past either. Such dinosaurs as Queen, Rod Stewart and Pink Floyd — some of whom had been around for as long as ten years, had outstayed their welcome and were to be put to the sword.

Imagine, then, the consternation of a time-traveller arriving at the Shepherds Bush Empire a full 18 years later in November 1994, there to find playing on consecutive nights Elvis Costello and the Attractions and the Stranglers, while posters on nearby walls advertised shows by the Damned and Ian Dury and the Blockheads.

But of all the unlikely long-runners from the heyday of punk, Siouxsie & the Banshees have effected the most dramatic transformation while somehow emerging with their dignity intact. From their shambolic first performance, as Suzie and the Banshees at the 100 Club Punk Festival in September 1976, to the graceful sophistication of their new album, *The Rapture*, they have somehow kept abreast of developments while resisting the temptation to be drawn too far into the whirlpool of fashion at any given time. Shrill, youthful angst has gradually given way to an aloof sense of authority, but a purposeful undercurrent of menace persists.

The Rapture begins with the carefree lilt of "O Baby", one of the most upbeat songs they have ever attempted. Siouxsie sounds almost kittenish, while Budgie, as on many of the tracks, elects to play with brushes, bringing a delicate finesse to his locomotive drum patterns. It is the best of five numbers on the album produced by John Cale, all of them at the gentle or jaunty end of the Banshees' musical spectrum, which seems somewhat surprising, given the ex-Velvet Underground man's past associations with works of matchless gloom.

But here it is the band's own productions which conjure a generally darker mood and yield the most impressive results. Siouxsie's voice describes odd, swooping arcs in the chorus of "Sick Child", one of many songs enriched by Martin McCarrick's doleful cello parts. And the old fires are vigorously restoked on "Not Forgotten", with Budgie's thunderous tom-tom tattoo shoring up a typical Siouxsie performance, full of sensual threat. Best of all is the 11-minute title track, which finds Siouxsie at her most magisterial, picking her way through swathes of echoing, gothic harmonies and an intricate string-section arrangement with vaguely Middle Eastern leanings.

Age may have worn away the more violent extremes, but the Banshees are a group that can still put on a magical mystery tour with an unsettling edge.

THROWING MUSES
University
(4AD CAD 5002)

HAVING extended her appeal way beyond expectations with last year's acoustic solo album, *Hips And Makers*, Kristin Hersh returns to the Throwing Muses fold for *University*, another bout of emotional catharsis set to music.

Combining the aesthetics of the wendy-house with those of the haunted castle, her lyrics tread a fine line between childlike innocence and neurotic imbalance. "My head is filled with flowers and I'm dressed in shiny gold/Keep an eye on me, I shimmer on horizons," she sings in "Shimmer", a punchy rocker that wouldn't sound out of place on a Pixies album.

In interviews Hersh insists that she doesn't so much write her songs as simply catch hold of them when they pop out, and sometimes that is how it sounds. The title track is an eerie instrumental interlude, punctuated by ghostly shouts and shrieks supplied by her son Dylan, among others, while "Surf Cowboy", although a fine riff, is likewise more of a snippet than a song.

But when she goes the distance with an idea, as with the dense, hypnotic riff of "Flood" or the crystalline guitar swirl of "Snakeface", her strange, haunting songs echo in the mind long after the music has gone.

WAYNE KRAMER
The Hard Stuff (Epitaph 86447)

ONE OF popular music's original heavyweight malcontents, Wayne Kramer was a founder member of 1960s revolutionary rockers the MC5. Having since done time in Was (Not Was), the Deviants and a federal correction institution in Lexington, Kentucky, the guitarist has emerged as a senior statesman figure in modern American alternative rock circles.

The unintentionally amusing sleeve notes by Henry Rollins give a fair indication of what to expect from *The Hard Stuff*: "This is the hard stuff . . . hard as the street you're going to have to go out and survive today". And a cast of supporting musicians from bands including Bad Religion, Circle Jerks, the Melvins and Suicidal Tendencies are no less resolute in their pursuit of hardness.

Kramer is not much of a singer, but his old-fashioned power-chord riffing and wah-wah soloing is efficient of its kind. In songs that range from the hell-for-leather "Bad Seed" to the spoken word narrative of "Incident On Stock Island", a seedy cast of characters negotiate a world routinely riven by hard drugs, petty crime and violent confrontation. Although unfailingly energetic and leavened by the occasional tune — "Junkie Romance" has some nice chord changes — the album is heavy (not to say hard) going, overall.

THE BLUE AEROPLANES
Rough Music
(Beggars Banquet BBQCD 167)

PUT it down to bad luck, bad timing or bad dancing (from their non-musical accompanist Wojtek Dmochowski), but the Blue Aeroplanes have now spent a full decade languishing on the indie-rock margins when they could have done so much more. *Rough Music* is their seventh album and, as ever, its appeal hinges less on Gerard Langley's evocative poetry, recited in his southern English, beatnik drawl, than on the marvellous twinkling patchwork of guitars chiming away behind him.

The exact meaning of Langley's words is elusive more often than not. But when he does focus on a subject, as during the breathless, racing pulse of "Scared", he hits the mark with rare precision: "I love you and I'm scared/I'm scared I may be in too deep".

It is one of several affecting tracks on an album that deserves more attention than it will doubtless get.



"Of all the unlikely long-runners from the 1970s heyday of punk, Siouxsie & the Banshees have effected the most dramatic transformation while somehow also emerging with their dignity intact"

1	Carry On Up The Charts	Beautiful South (Go! Discs)
2	Always & Forever	Eternal (EMI)
3	Steam	East 17 (London)
4	4 Cross Road — The Best of. . .	Bon Jovi (Jambco)
5	The Colour of My Love	Celine Dion (Epic)
6	Definitely Maybe	Oasis (Creation)
7	Crocodile Shoes	Jimmy Nail (East West)
8	Dummy	Portishead (Go! Discs)
9	Psyche	PJ & Duncan (XSRhythm)
10	Parklife	Blur (Food)

Compiled by MRB

Songs with sole

JAZZ

Annie Ross
Pizza on the Park, SW1

Once she had warmed up the room with her opening number, a sultry "Bye Bye Blackbird", Annie Ross decided that a change of footwear was in order. Were her singing shoes in the dressing room, she inquired. Back came the reply from the genial master of ceremonies, Simon Becker: "There are some shoes here, but none that is singing."

After she had lowered herself into a glittering pair of silver high-heels, Ross went on to deliver a single, 90-minute performance rather than the customary two one-hour sets. Back in the limelight thanks to her role in Robert Altman's film *Short Cuts*, she has lost none of her charismatic appeal. But stretched to these proportions the show had its longueurs, most of coming them during several forays into vocalese — otherwise known as the art of adding lyrics to jazz instrumentals.

Ross helped to pioneer that tricky form early in her solo career and, a few years later, with Lambert, Hendricks and Ross, the vocal trio which was a model for the likes of Manhattan Transfer. There is no denying the ingenuity of the word-play on Wardell Gray's "Twisted" or Art Farmer's "Farmer's Market", but it takes laser-sharp diction and pitch control to make the hybrid fly.

In her mid-sixties, Ross still looks wonderfully glamorous but the voice has, inevitably, suffered some wear and tear. None of that matters once she digs into show tunes and ballads.

A consummate actress, she makes a compelling dramatic monologue out of each piece, be it "Love Is Here To Stay" or the contrasting sentiments of "To Hell With Love", one of the cynical Dr John-Doc Pomus vamps taken from the soundtrack of *Short Cuts*.

Though she leaves the imprint of her personality on each song, the process is always subtle, never overbearing. She makes each word count, so that the listener can savour the intricacies of, say, Ira Gershwin's lyric on "Isn't It A Pity", with its cocktail-hour rhyming of "salmon" and "backgammon", "sour" and "Schopenhauer".

Ross is also one of the few vocalists who can make the transition from worldly sophistication to low-down, bluesy laments without missing a beat. On "Going to Chicago" and "One Meat Ball" her voice took on the rasping, smoky quality of a tenor saxophone, floating above David Newton's piano accompaniment. She and her musicians, who also include Jack Parnell on the drums, will be in residence until January 28. Do not miss them.

CLIVE DAVIS

More like an art than a noise

An album of sacred music is just one more strand in Anne Dudley's varied career. **Louise Gray** met her



Dudley: "It is difficult to write a good pop song"

As one of five children brought up in a south-east London home where pop music was considered subversive, Anne Dudley always wondered what the stars of her youth — Cilla Black or Cliff Richard, for instance — sounded like. She would see their black and white images bobbing about on the family television set, but "my parents would turn the sound down at the mere hint of pop music", she recalls. "That is probably why, when I was old enough to smuggle the transistor radio into the bathroom, I seized upon pop with such fiendish glee."

The glee will surprise no one who has followed Dudley's subsequent career as composer, arranger, producer and erstwhile leader of the Art of Noise. "I remember listening to all the classic Motown music and the Philadelphia soul stuff. Harold Melvin I liked; also Teddy Prendergast. But I especially remember hearing Smokey Robinson's "Tears of a Clown" for the first time. I thought, there's a bassoon! And a piccolo! Later I started listening to George Martin's work for the Beatles. He'd put a harpsichord cadenza in the middle of a three-minute pop song. I found them fascinating."

It is this fascination with texture, sounds and colours that has informed all of Dudley's work, from the sample-delic pranks of the Art of Noise onwards. She speaks about tone-colours often, as if being a composer was the equivalent of being an interior designer, or a painter. Quite possibly, it is this interest in the relationships between the constituent parts of a musical piece that has shaped Dudley. And with the forthcoming release of *Ancient and Modern*, her debut classical album, Dudley is emerging in her true colours.

As its name suggests, the album is a collection of sacred music, scored for a 50-piece orchestra and an 18-strong chorus. With its "Veni Sancte Spiritus", "Communion" or "Three Chorales in Common Time", *A & M* is full of strong images and subtly shaded moods.

Dudley has researched her sources extensively. She used a sombre setting for the "Coventry Carol" after discovering the lullaby came from a 15th-century pageant and was sung on the night that preceded the Massacre of the Innocents. Two other carols — "The Holly and the Ivy" and "Veni Emmanuel" — also appear.

This is, as far as marketing executives are concerned, crossover territory, and one of the most unpredictable sectors of the music industry. Who is going to listen to *A & M*? Not the people who know Bach backwards, thinks Dudley. More likely are those who like Art of Noise, or those who have picked up on her soundtrack work: her music from *Jeeves and Wooster* was nominated for a Bafta while her latest piece, for ITV's new series *Kavanagh QC*, is drawing appreciative murmurs. Nonetheless, Dudley realises that for many people *A & M* will constitute something of an anomaly: a classical album written by a musician at home on either side of the pop/art divide.

"I think it is important to draw a distinction," she says. "I am not a pop musician who is attempting something in a style with which I am not familiar. I've always come from a classical orientation. Even the pop music I do has its classical side; the way I score it, voice it, colour it. It all goes back," she pauses to collect enough breath to fuel a mock sanctimonious tone, "to my training."

The training was thorough enough. Winning numerous exhibitions and scholarships as a child pianist, Dudley left the Royal College of Music as the top B. Mus student of her year, did a Masters degree, and pondered her future.

The key proved to be a meeting with producer Trevor Horn in 1980 and the creation of a professional relationship now in its 16th year. Following Brian Eno's maxim — treat the recording studio as a compositional tool — Dudley began work as Horn's arranger and keyboardist. It was the chance to combine pop music and improvisation with the rigorous structure that classicists demand.

Other work followed and, during the Eighties Horn and Dudley's contributions to the likes of ABC, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, and Wham! established a standard of excellence that other producers could only admire. And then there was the Art of Noise. Singles like "Beat Box", "Kiss" and "Moments in Love" (which Madonna and Sean Penn played at their wedding) achieved phenomenal success.

Her confidence to strike out as a solo classicist only came after a chance encounter with John Adams's *The Chairman Dances*. "It was a turning point. It was very modern, very daring, and had tremendous verve. I think Adams is one of the reasons that *A & M* came about.

"Classical music is about a lot of things. It can be about itself, about the structure. That is why it bears repeated listening. Pop music is basically about sex. It is very difficult to write a good three-minute pop song. You need an arresting intro, a not very long verse, a bridge that lifts and a chorus with a fantastic hookline and an interesting lyric. All the rest is dressing. If that's easy, then let me go home and write one."

● *Anne Dudley's* Ancient and Modern *is released on February 6, by Echo Records*

Wakeham joins race for election to BHB

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

JOHN WAKEHAM, the former senior Cabinet minister, is to stand for election to the British Horseracing Board (BHB) and so prompt a fascinating clash for the vacant seat with Brian Walden, the ex-Labour MP and television interviewer.

The 62-year-old peer, who gained a deserved reputation as the behind-the-scenes troubleshooter in Mrs Thatcher's Government, agreed to let his name go forward earlier this week after discussions with close friends in racing who are anxious to stop Walden being elected.

Wakeham, whose senior Government jobs included Chief Whip, Leader of the Commons and the Lords, lists racing as one of his interests in *Who's Who* and he has had several steeplechasers in training, mainly with Stan Mellor, during the 1970s.

"I have said I will stand for the BHB and if there is a general feeling that is acceptable I will have a go," he said yesterday. "I have had a lifelong interest in racing and one of the great things about retiring from politics is that you have time to do things which you didn't have time for before."

He has followed the recent developments in racing, including the creation of the BHB, with interest and commented: "I think 'Stoker' Hartington and the others have done a pretty good job in getting this far. It is now a body which can represent all aspects of racing. They have managed to square the circle over integrity as well as running the sport in a way which is acceptable to most people."

He added: "But the fact of the matter is that there are a lot of people with a big investment in racing who are not getting a very good return for what they are doing and we have to look after that, whilst recognising we are a big leisure industry.

"I was an owner of steeplechasers for many years but once you get into politics it is not that easy. Eventually I found I had horses running but could never get to see them. I remember having a horse called Willy What who ran at Wolverhampton on the day of the final leadership election between Margaret Thatcher and Willie Whitelaw. My horse and Willie Whitelaw both came second."

Asked what qualities he could bring to the world of racing, Wakeham was happy to let others do the talking. "Most people know the skills and experience I have," he said.

One close colleague said yesterday: "John is one of the most able people in this country. He is also a man who is *persona grata* with both sides of the House of Commons. He has enjoyed an amazing career without making enemies while getting things done. He has an immediate grasp of any problem."

Wakeham's supporters are claiming he would be the ideal person to take over the chairmanship of the BHB when Lord Hartington retires in June 1996, and they are questioning Walden's qualifications. "It is desperately important we appoint the right person now to lead racing into the 21st century," one influential racing figure added.

The impending battle between the two high-profile candidates will centre on which has the better political credentials and it was suggested yesterday a leading City public relations company has already been recruited by one side.

Opponents of Lord Wakeham will point out that he already has plenty on his plate since stepping down from day-to-day politics. Apart from being on the board of the Bristol and West Building Society and the Enron Corporation, he has recently taken up his duties as the new chairman of the Press Complaints Commission. However, he insisted yesterday: "I will have time to be a member of the board. We will see how we get on but I am expecting to be fairly busy."

Rhydian Morgan-Jones, the chairman of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, is the third candidate to have been nominated but it is thought likely he will stand down and the TBA is expected to nominate Lord Wakeham. If Lord Wakeham is successful in the election for one of three industry committee seats on the BHB, he may decline the committee chairmanship.

There was growing speculation last night that Morgan-Jones would be appointed chairman and then co-opted onto the full BHB board. The closing date for election nominations is January 31 and voting has to be completed by the end of February.



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Dublin Flyer's last-fence fall in the John Bull Chase at Wincanton gives Brendan Powell no chance of maintaining the partnership

Doubt over favourite in Ascot feature

THE Victor Chandler Chase was thrown into confusion yesterday as rumours abounded over the wellbeing of the favourite, Viking Flagship (Richard Evans writes). The sponsors and Corals suspended betting on tomorrow's £40,000 chase at Ascot while William Hill offered the "with a run" proviso against him.

David Nicholson, the trainer of Viking Flagship, was in France and unable to comment on speculation that his charge had pulled up feelingly after his most recent piece of work. However, a stable spokeswoman said: "As far as we are concerned, he is a definite runner."

Bradbury Star, the 9-4 on favourite for the John Bull Chase at Wincanton yesterday, never looked like justifying his price. Mistakes at the first two fences meant he was always struggling behind the early leader, Dublin Flyer, and another error on the final circuit sealed his fate.

The race went to Lusty Light, trained by Jenny Pitman, who was a length clear at the final fence where Dublin Flyer fell.

Results, page 37



Wakeham: experience

EDINBURGH

THUNDERER

12.45 Preston Guild. 1.15 Mr Confusion. 1.45 Wee River. 2.15 Trump. 2.45 Russinsky. 3.15 Will Soon. 3.45 South Westerly.

GOING: GOOD — SIS

12.45 DYEWATER MAIDEN HURDLE
(Div I: £2,026: 2m) (12 runners)

1 06 BLUE CHARM 39 Mrs S Bradburne 5-11-9 ..... R Murphy (7) 80
2 0 CRYSTADO 39 J Haldane 6-11-9 ..... M Doughty –
3 0-00 DIFFERENT TIMES 18 Miss L Siddall 5-11-9 ..... F Leahy (5) 66
4 000 HARGOLD LAD 18 R McKellar 5-11-9 ..... B Storey –
5 P HOME SAFE 27 T Etherington 5-11-9 ..... A Thornton –
6 0434 PRESTON GUILD 15 A Forbes 5-11-9 ..... T Eley (3) 88
7 4400 SHARP N' SMOOTH 6F (B) W Kemp 6-11-9 ..... S McDougall 81
8 -550 BLOOMING SPRING 16 Mrs D Thomson 6-11-4 ..... L O'Hara 77
9 P MAYRISH 13 W Reed 8-11-4 ..... T Reed –
10 42 EXPLORE MONDIAL 25 T Dyer 4-10-11 ..... L Wyer 86
11 26 FAIR AND FANCY 18 Miss M Milligan 4-10-11 Richard Guest 90
12 UP IN FLAMES 189F M Hammond 4-10-11 ..... D Bentley (3) –

5-4 Preston Guild, 4-1 Fair And Fancy, 5-1 Explore Mondial, 7-1 Blue Charm, 10-1 Up In Flames, 14-1 Sharp N' Smooth, 16-1 others.

1.15 DYEWATER MAIDEN HURDLE
(Div II: £2,026: 2m) (12)

1 43 CANAAN LANE 18 A Harrison 6-11-9 ..... J Callaghan 87
2 P-30 CANAAN VALLEY 18 (BF) D Robertson 7-11-9 ..... T Reed 92
3 30- FIVE A SIDE 228 J Dodds 8-11-9 ..... B Storey –
4 P-P0 GRINNELL 63 D McCune 5-11-9 ..... K Johnson –
5 BP- KEEP BATTLING 190F J Goldie 5-11-9 ..... F Perratt (5) –
6 35-4 MEDIA MESSENGER 86 Denys Smith 6-11-9 ..... L Wyer 98
7 3 MR CONFUSION 34 J Eyre 7-11-9 ..... G Pears 75
8 00 PAGLIACCIO 48 M Hammond 7-11-9 ..... A Dobbin 75
9 5 ROCHARRSARE 50 T Etherington 6-11-9 ..... A Thornton 64
10 ROPP MEADOWLECK 18 W Young 6-11-4 ..... R Murphy (7) –
11 P MILLEWAY 16 P Monteith 5-11-4 ..... M Medcroft –
12 UP-P ROMAN SWORD 16 S Leadbetter 7-11-4 ..... B Cahill (7) –

4-5 Mr Confusion, 9-2 Media Messenger, 8-1 Canaan Lane, 10-1 Pagliaccio, Rocharsare, Canaan Valley, 16-1 Grinnell, 25-1 others.

1.45 HOPESWATER NOVICES CHASE
(£2,801: 2m) (15)

1 P213 CARDENDEN 13 (CD,G) J Barclay 7-11-10 ..... A Thornton 89
2 1140 BRIAR'S DELIGHT 18 (V,G) R Allan 7-11-4 ..... B Storey –
3 PUP CLUISTOELIE JIM 18 (B) Denys Smith 6-11-4 ..... L Wyer –
4 F-33 FAMILY LINE 39 (F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 7-11-4 ..... A Dobbin –
5 2F65 FRUHMAN 25 (B) Mrs S Smith 9-11-4 ..... Richard Guest 88
6 /PP- GROS 335P D Eddy 8-11-4 ..... T Reed –
7 FP00 KELPIE THE CELT 38 Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-4 R Murphy (7) –
8 4-24 MR ROYAL 13 (BF) M Hammond 9-11-4 ..... Mr C Bonner (5) –
9 0665 NORTH PRIDE 58 (F) M Barnes 10-11-4 ..... G Cahill (7) –
10 0440 QUARTZ HILL 72 D Lamb 6-11-4 ..... Mr A Manners (7) –
11 50P2 RAPID MOVER 25 (B,F) D Nolan 8-11-4 ..... N Doughty 95
12 PP12 WEE RIVER 25 (BF,F,S) G Moore 6-11-4 ..... J Callaghan –
13 5/65 ANOTHER LEAF 34 R McDonald 8-10-13 ..... R Hodge –
14 4/06 MOSSIE GOLD 51 C Parker 8-10-13 ..... Mr D Parker (5) –
15 4/00 SCIACCA 39 (F) T Dyer 8-10-13 ..... M Hourigan –

9-4 Wee River, 4-1 Family Line, 9-2 Rapid Mover, 8-1 Frohman, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Tinkler, 7 winners from 23 runners, 30.4%; Mrs M Reveley, 17 from 57, 29.8%. M Hammond, 20 from 81, 24.7%. C Thornton, 4 from 17, 23.5%; C Parker, 6 from 30, 20.0%; P Monteith, 10 from 53, 18.9%.

JOCKEYS: Mr C Bonner, 4 winners from 9 rides, 44.4%; T Reed, 16 from 79, 20.3%; J Callaghan, 7 from 39, 17.9%; B Storey, 17 from 110, 15.5%. R Hodge, 4 from 26, 15.4%; A Dobbin, 8 from 60, 13.3%.

2.15 HARCROS HELPING YOU BUILD HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,827: 3m) (8)

1 1506 CASTLE RANGER 27 (F,B) M Barnes 8-12-0 ..... G Cahill (7) 85
2 3111 TRUMP 25 (CD,B,S) C Parker 6-11-7 ..... Mr D Parker (5) 92
3 P0-5 TEMPLE GARTH 18 (G,S) P Beaumont 8-11-3 ..... C Hawkins 85
4 2453 VALIANT DASH 34 (C,D,F,G,S) J Goldie 9-10-12 F Perratt (5) 98
5 26-0 CAPTAIN TANCRED 28 (S) J Bridges 7-10-9 ..... M Moloney 94
6 -355 ASTRAC TRIO 25 (BF,G) P Monteith 5-10-6 ..... A Dobbin 90
7 -403 JUKE BOX BILLY 25 (C,F) J Johnson 7-10-4 ..... F Leahy (5) 88
8 -40P SCOTTISH GOLD 18 (V,D,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 11-10-3 ..... A Thornton –

9-4 Trump, 3-1 Juke Box Billy, 5-1 Valiant Dash, 7-1 Captain Tancred, 8-1 Castle Ranger, 10-1 Astrac Trio. 12-1 others.

2.45 WHITEADDER HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,290: 2m 4f) (14)

1 0-62 CORNET 25 (V,CD,F,G,S) Denys Smith 9-12-0 ..... L Wyer 97
2 1-1U BOARDING SCHOOL 25 (D,F,G,S) C Parker 8-11-3 .. B Storey 94
3 3212 STRONG APPROACH 18 (D,BF,G,S) J Charlton 10-11-2 ..... A Dobbin 96
4 P-41 TIMANFAYA 34 (CD,F,S) W Reed 8-10-11 ..... T Reed 98
5 PFP- DEADLINE 239 (B,D,G,S) S Chadwick 12-10-10 Miss J Thurlow 91
6 23-4 CHOICE CHALLANGE 44 (C,D,F,G,S) M Hammond 12-10-10 ..... Mr C Bonner (5) 98
7 0-53 SHEILAS HILLCREST 25 (D,S) N Mason 9-10-9 J Supple (5) 85
8 331P LAPIAFFE 34 (CD,F,G,S) A Harrison 11-10-7 Mr D Parker (5) 89
9 5204 SECRET SUMMIT 46 (V,F,G,S) A Forbes 9-10-5 ..... T Eley (3) 87
10 4551 RUSSINSKY 23 (CD,G,S) G Bravery 8-10-5 ..... M Hourigan 96
11 2545 CHARMING GALE 36 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-4 ..... R Murphy (7) 96
12 /6-2 ITYFIL 27 (B,CD,G) B Willoughton 9-10-4 ..... D Bentley (3) 98
13 3653 OLE OLE 16 (F,S) Mrs E Mezzrop 9-10-1 ..... M Moloney 96
14 43P5 BARNSLAND 16 (CD,G,S) P Beaumont 11-10-0 .. J Callaghan 92

3-1 Strong Approach, 4-1 Comet, 7-1 Sheilas Hillcrest, 8-1 Timanfaya, Ityfil, 12-1 Boarding School, Charming Gale, 14-1 others.

3.15 FASERY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,295: 2m) (11)

1 004- ASHDREN 34F (D,G) A Harrison 8-11-13 ..... C Hawkins 80
2 0206 ERICOUR 18 (CD,F,G,S) N Tinkler 5-11-8 ..... E Husband (5) 90
3 0232 WILL SOON 3 W Bentley 6-11-5 ..... L Wyer 87
4 5620 SHUT UP 44 (G) Mrs E Mezzrop 6-10-13 ..... K Johnson 81
5 -F08 PERSIAN LION 34 F Watson 6-10-9 ..... A Thornton 88
6 PPP- STYLISH GENT 256 (CD,F,G) G Oldroyd 8-10-6 P Midgley (3) 85
7 539 FIRST IN THE FIELD 35 N Mason 4-10-3 ..... J Supple (5) 81
8 P09P DAPHNIS 6F (B,S) W Kemp 6-10-2 ..... B Storey 80
9 0406 SPEEDY SIOUX 34 (B,D,F,G) S Chadwick 6-10-2 ..... Miss J Thurlow 88
10 4602 FUNNY ROSE 25 P Monteith 5-10-2 ..... A Dobbin 84
11 04/0 SURE TO WIN 27 (V) J Carr 6-10-0 ..... N Smith 84

7-2 Will Soon, 4-1 Funny Rose, 5-1 Ericolin, 6-1 Persian Lion, 8-1 First In The Field, Daphnis, 10-1 Speedy Sioux, 14-1 others.

3.45 WHITEWATER NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,780: 2m 4f) (15)

1 -000 ROYAL RANK 103 D Alder 5-11-10 ..... K Johnson –
2 /0-0 BUSY BOY 13 D Lamb 8-11-7 ..... Mr A Manners (7) –
3 20F5 GLEN DALLIS 13 J Johnson 6-11-6 ..... N Doughty 94
4 31P0 RED TEMPEST 39 (V,F,G) J Goldie 7-11-5 ..... F Perratt (5) 97
5 00-2 SOUTH WESTERLY 18 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-4 ..... N Smith 88
6 3261 MOLINE'S A VILLAIN 16 (G,S) T Dyer 4-11-2 ..... L Wyer 90
7 01 TRIBUNE 35 (G) C Thornton 4-11-1 ..... D Walgerson 91
8 -043 ROLY PRIOR 51 Ms L Pinter 5-11-1 ..... D Bentley (3) 83
9 2U21 ALASDAIR HER 14 (S) A Forbes 4-10-11 ..... T Eley (3) 96
10 -004 SCOTCH 'N IRISH 25 Mrs S Smith 6-10-10 ..... Richard Guest 91
11 1/30 REED 25 (F,S) Mrs D Thomson 10-10-7 ..... S de Burgh (7) 96
12 3P2P RALLYING CRY 13 R Allan 7-10-5 ..... B Storey 95
13 050 TOPOTHENORTHRACING 39 P Beaumont 5-10-5 .. C Hawkins 91
14 F-53 LA DOUTELLE 95 Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-0 ..... R Murphy (7) 88
15 0-08 AMERIGUE 56 D Watters 5-10-0 ..... B Harding (5) 96

5-2 South Westerly, 4-1 Miss's A Villain, 8-1 Alasdair Her, Tribune, 10-1 Roly Prior, 12-1 Scotch 'N Irish, 14-1 others.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

12.50 SUDDEN SPIN (nap). 1.20 Pageboy. 1.55 El Nido. 2.25 Tilly Owl. 2.55 Pharly Dancer. 3.25 Jamaica Bridge. 3.55 Tempering.

GOING: STANDARD — SIS

DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.50 BUTTERCUP AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div I: £2,537: 1m 3f) (9 runners)

1 464- GOLD BLADE 90 (F,G) J Pearce 6-11-7 ..... Mrs L Pearce 8
2 403- MEDLAND 13 (F,G) W G M Turner 5-11-7 ..... Mrs C Price (4) 3
3 000- DONIA 17 (G) J L Harris 6-11-0 ..... I McLelland (4) 6
4 04-3 MODEST HOPE 7 (C,D,F,G) B Richmond 8-10-12 ..... Miss Diana Jones 5
5 850- GOLDENBERRY 13J J Parkes 4-10-6 ..... R Johnson (4) 9
6 000- SUDDEN SPIN 13J (G) S Norton 5-10-5 ..... C Bonner 1
7 60-0 ALDINGTON CHAPPLE 7 B Preece 7-10-2 Miss L Boswell (4) 7
8 000/ MARTHUL 7J R Jukes 7-10-1 ..... Miss S Higgins (4) 2
9 004- DON'T DROP BOMBS 122 (C,G) P Felden 6-9-13 ..... Miss J Felden 4

2-1 Modest Hope, 9-4 Sudden Spin, 7-2 Gold Blade, 5-1 Medland, 8-1 others.

1.20 RYEGRASS HANDICAP (£2,827: 6f) (15)

1 0-12 PAGEBOY 3 (D,BF,F,G) P Haslam 6-10-7 (7ex) ... J Weaver 15
2 410- RAPIER POINT 256 (D,G) P Haslam 4-9-12 ..... M Tebbutt 7
3 106- FAIREY FIREFLY 85 (D,F) M Camacho 4-9-10 .. L Charnock 13
4 050- SHADOW JURY 29 (B,F,S,S) D Chapman 5-9-10 ..... Oliver Casey (7) 14
5 005- TWICE IN BUNDORAN 203 (G) P Felgate 4-9-5 ..... T Ives 5
6 20- MEESON TIMES 29 (C,D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 7-9-5 ..... H Bastiman (5) 8
7 000- HENRY THE HAWK 76 (V) M Dods 4-9-2 ..... J Stack (5) 12
8 006- HILTONS TRAVEL 13 (B,S) E Alston 4-9-2 ..... S Webster 2
9 020- THREE OF HEARTS 66 (C,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-2 ..... L Dettori 3
10 400- SWIMMING TICH 18 (CD,G) B McMahon 6-8-9 S Sanders (5) 1
11 04-3 CHEERFUL GROOM 8 (F) J Mackie 4-8-8 ..... G Carter 5
12 000- WELLSY LAD 44 (CD,G,S) D Chapman 8-8-5 ..... J Quinn 10
13 000- LAST STRAW 66 (CD,G) B Preece 7-8-3 ..... A Eddery (7) 11
14 05-1 PORTEND 7 (CD,G) S Bowring 5-7-13 (7ex) Claire Balding (7) 9
15 400- WINTERBOTTOM 29 I Campbell 3-7-12 ..... A Mackay 4

3-1 Pageboy, 4-1 Portend, 5-1 Rapier Point, 6-1 Fairey Firefly, 7-1 Three Of Hearts, 8-1 Cheerful Groom, Shadow Jury, 10-1 others.

1.55 DAISY CLAMING STAKES (£2,537: 2m) (11)

1 835- BRODESSA 44J (F) Mrs M Reveley 9-9-7 ..... R Cochrane 7
2 310- EL NIDO 17 (C,F,G,S) Mr M Camacho 7-9-3 ..... L Charnock 11
3 000- MAC'S BOY 217 B Palling 8-9-1 ..... A Clark 2
4 03-4 SASSIVER 6 (C,BF,G) R Hollinshead 5-9-1 ..... L Dettori 4
5 305- DAWN ROCK 43 (V,C,G) P Kelleway 4-8-8 Adelle Gibbons (7) 1
6 255- GREENACRES STAR 29 B McMahon 5-8-8 ..... J Weaver 6
7 00-0 ZAAHEYAH 4 (V) M Hammond 5-8-6 ..... G Carter 5
8 00-0 CHAPEL HAVEN 9 (B) J Parkes 5-8-4 ..... N Adams 6
9 60-0 KUSK 7 J L Harris 4-7-13 ..... N Varley (5) 3
10 00-0 KISS KINCSEM 70 (B) P Makin 4-7-9 ..... Dale Gibson 10
11 50-0 WINAGINS 7 T Watson 4-7-9 ..... J Quinn 9

7-2 El Nido, 4-1 Brodessa, 5-1 Sassiver, 11-2 Dawn Rock, 6-1 Greenacres Star, Kiss Kincsem, 7-1 Zaaheyah, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 14 winners from 47 runners, 29.8%; Lord Huntingdon, 22 from 97, 22.7%; S Norton, 32 from 149, 21.5%; M Johnston, 27 from 133, 20.3%; D Wilson, 4 from 24, 16.7%; W Haigh, 15 from 91, 16.5%.

JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 29 winners from 137 rides, 21.2%; J Weaver, 20 from 112, 17.9%; Alex Greaves, 34 from 217, 15.7%; M Tebbutt, 6 from 41, 14.6%; R Cochrane, 12 from 89, 13.5%; H Bastiman, 4 from 36, 11.1%.

2.25 COWSLIP LIMITED STAKES
(£2,537: 1m) (10)

1 01-0 CICERONE 11 (CD,G,S) J L Harris 5-9-12 ..... R Cochrane 3
2 000- EXCLUSION 132 (D,S) J Hanlon 5-9-12 ..... T Ives 2
3 40-3 HAWKHAM 6 (D,F,S) E Alston 9-9-12 ..... J Weaver 8
4 0-25 ORTHORHOMBUS 4 (B,BF,F) D Cosgrove 5-9-12 .. A Shoults 5
5 00-3 PURFY 7 (V,F,G,S) M Dods 6-9-12 ..... W Woods 4
6 442- SUPERCOOL 17 B McMahon 4-8-11 ..... S Sanders (5) 7
7 50-0 LEVEL EDGE 10 (D,G,S) M Johnston 4-8-6 ..... T Williams 6
8 156- SHARPENING 44 (V,C,G,S) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-6 ..... A Whelan (5) 10
9 45-3 SLIP A COIN 7 R Hollinshead 4-8-6 ..... L Dettori 1
10 60/- TILLY OWL 17 (G) J A Harris 4-8-6 ..... J O'Reilly 9

7-2 Hawkham, 9-2 Slip A Coin, 5-1 Orthorhombus, 6-1 Cicerone, 7-1 Tilly Owl, 8-1 Level Edge, Sharpening, 10-1 Supercool, 12-1 others.

2.55 FOXGLOVE HANDICAP
(£3,556: 1m 4f) (5)

1 11-1 JOSEPH'S WINE 4 (B,C,F,G) D Nicholls 6-10-5 (5ex) ..... Alex Greaves 3
2 01-1 PHARLY DANCER 7 (CD,G) W Haigh 6-9-11 (5ex) Dale Gibson 1
3 2-11 ARGYLE CAVALIER 2 (C,D,F,G,S) M Johnston 5-9-8 (5ex) ..... Oliver Casey (7) 5
4 4/2 MIZYAN 11 (CD,G) J Bantu 7-9-4 ..... J Weaver 4
5 04-1 ROUSITTO 7 (C,D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-8-12 (5ex) L Dettori 2

7-4 Argyle Cavalier, 5-2 Pharly Dancer, 11-4 Joseph's Wine, 5-1 Rousitto, 8-1 Mizyan.

3.25 BLUEBELL SELLING STAKES
(£2,259: 7f) (15)

1 22-3 ALPINE JOHNNY 2 (C,BF,D,G) R Hollinshead 4-8-12 ..... A Garth (5) 14
2 0 ARROGANT BOY 7 D Chapman 6-8-12 ..... S Webster 6
3 004- AT THE SAVOY 102 T Barron 4-8-12 ..... Kimberley Hart (7) 1
4 600- GRANDEE 18 (C,G) B McMahon 4-8-12 ..... J Weaver 15
5 34-5 JAMAICA BRIDGE 11 (C,G) S Norton 5-8-12 ..... J Stack (5) 12
6 500- ROLLING TIME 90 (V,G) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-12 .. M Fenton 4
7 400- MAKE THE BREAK 13 (D,F,G) S Coathup 4-8-12 ..... S James (7) 13
8 605/ MISTER BLAKE 28J (B,CD,G) I Campbell 5-8-12 .. A Mackay 3
9 000- OBSIDIAN GREY 13 (CD,F,G,S) Miss L Siddall 8-8-12 ..... R Cochrane 9
10 000- PREMIER STAR 13J (G) M Dods 5-8-12 ..... Dale Gibson 10
11 5/6- SPANISH STRIPPER 129 M Chapman 4-8-12 D R McCabe (5) 2
12 150- THE REAL WHIZZBANG 104 P Felgate 4-8-12 ..... T Ives 11
13 46-0 WARHURST 11 (C,G) D Nicholls 4-8-12 ..... Alex Greaves 7
14 05-3 BRADWELL 11 (F) M Tompkins 4-8-7 ..... S Mulvey (5) 8
15 500- LON ISA 76J B Palling 4-8-7 ..... A Clark 5

7-2 Alpine Johnny, 5-1 Jamaica Bridge, 6-1 Spanish Stripper, 8-1 Bradwell, Make The Break, 10-1 Rolling Time, Mister Blake, 12-1 Obsidian Grey, 14-1 others.

3.55 BUTTERCUP AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,537: 1m 3f) (9)

1 020- TEMPERING 29 (CD,F,G) D Chapman 9-11-7 Miss R Clark (4) 3
2 406- SHARP SENSATION 177 (CD,G) D Nicholls 5-11-5 ..... S Brisby (4) 9
3 350/ KILLICK 553 (F,G) A Bailey 7-10-13 ..... Miss Bridget Gatehouse (4) 6
4 60/0 AZUBAH 7 (F) J A Harris 8-10-12 ..... T Cant 2
5 006- OZZIE JONES 35J (F) M Chapman 4-10-7 ..... T Hughes (4) 5
6 P06- MIDLIN 52 J L Harris 5-10-4 ..... I McLelland (4) 7
7 /45- MRS JOGGLEBURY 70J C Smith 4-9-12 Miss S Sampson (4) 8
8 60-6 PERSIAN BUD 10 (G) J Bosley 7-9-7 ..... Miss V Bosley (4) 4
9 -033 MALINGERER 3 (BF) D Wilson 4-8-7 ..... Miss E Brennan 1

5-2 Tempering, 4-1 Persian Bud, Sharp Sensation, 5-1 Ozzie Jones, 6-1 Malingerer, 10-1 Killick, 14-1 others.

Blinkered first time

EDINBURGH: 1.45 Clustogue Jim, Fruhmen 3.15 Sure To Win. 3.45 Red Tempest. SOUTHWELL: 1.55 Dawn Rock, Kiss Kincsem. 2.25 Sharpening. 12.45 Sharp N' Smooth.

Whispering Steel to show mettle

ASCOT

BBC2

2.35: Sporting Index's book on the Arkle Challenge Chase at Cheltenham puts in Absalom's Lady as 7-1 second favourite to Valfinet (3-1). but David Elsworth's mare will have her work cut out to beat Gales Cavalier. For those keen to take a longer view, David Gandolfo's unbeaten chasing recruit is quoted at 10-1 for the Festival race.

Absalom's Lady owes her position in the betting to a good second to Travado on her chasing debut but she may have been flattered by that run. She would also ideally prefer softer ground over today's minimum trip. The selection was particularly impressive when winning at Kempton over Christmas. Brief Gale should improve after an encouraging debut over fences.

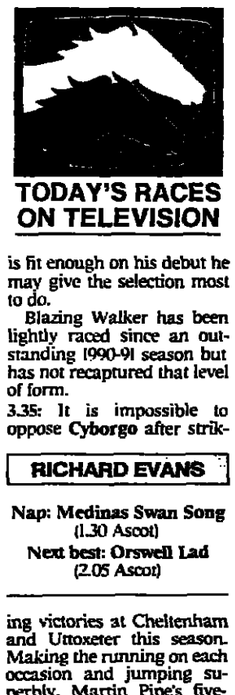
Dancing Paddy makes more appeal than Here He Comes but both will have their work cut out to cope with the three principals.

3.05: Despite some sloppy fencing, Whispering Steel had every chance behind Raymylette here last month until a blunder three fences from home finally ended his challenge. Kim Bailey's chaser can make amends in this small field. Jenny Pitman has her string in good form and if Superior Finish is fit enough on his debut he may give the selection most to do.

Blazing Walker has been lightly raced since an outstanding 1990-91 season but has not recaptured that level of form.

3.35: It is impossible to oppose Cyborgo after striking victories at Cheltenham and Uttoxeter this season. Making the running on each occasion and jumping superbly, Martin Pipe's five-year-old has looked every inch a Stayers' Hurdle candidate. This will almost certainly be his last appearance in handicap company.

RICHARD EVANS



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Medinas Swan Song (1.30 Ascot)

Next best: Orswell Lad (2.05 Ascot)

ASCOT

THUNDERER

12.55 King Lucifer — 2.35 Absalom's Lady
1.30 Newlands-General — 3.05 Superior Finish
2.05 Deduce — 3.35 Cyborgo

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
3.35 CYBORGO.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ..... B West (7) 88

Racecard number Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up U — unseated rider, B — brought down S — stopped up, R — refused, D — disqualified) Horse's name. Days since last outing: F fit, (8 — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD (7.30AM INSPECTION) — SIS

12.55 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £3,956: 2m 4f) (20 runners)

101 1 BRAES OF MAR 42 (G) (Queen Elizabeth) N Henderson 5-11-10 ..... M A Fitzgerald 93
102 15-41 FALMOUTH BAY 25 (G,S) (J Morrison) S Sherwood 6-11-5 ..... J Osborne 91
103 32-6031 GO BALLISTIC 14 (S) (Mrs B Lockyer) J O'Shea 5-11-5 ..... W Marston 90
104 023-312 KING LUCIFER 42 (S) (J Morris) D Nicholson 6-11-5 ..... A Maguire 93
105 21 SEOD RIOGA 41 (S) (S Tindall) S Mellor 5-11-5 ..... M Perrett 91
106 42-44 CASTLE CHIEF 55 (J Cloper) J Gifford 6-11-0 ..... P Hide 81
107 COFFER BOY (C Raymond) R Buckler 6-11-0 ..... B Powell –
108 644 COTTAGE CRAFT 34 (W Bethell) W Bethell 5-11-0 ..... A S Smith 77
109 DARREN THE BRAVE (D Allport) Mrs J Beadnes-Barons 7-11-0 ..... R Greene –
110 165 DOCTOR DOCTOR 44 (F) (M Lawton) R Simpson 6-11-0 ..... Mr E Williams (7) –
111 0-555- DONETTO 282 (J Price) R Price 6-11-0 ..... P McLoughlin (5) 71
112 6 FLYING INSTRUCTOR 15 (Lady Lyell) J Webber 5-11-0 ..... R Bellamy 73
113 22-2132 GARRYLOUGH 13 (G) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 5-11-0 ..... M Dwyer 89
114 021-1P IVY EDITH 7 (F,S) (G Apatt) T Mills 5-11-0 ..... S Ryan (7) 92
115 000/ JET JOCKEY 861 (Mrs J Nichols) R Spicer 6-11-0 ..... N Mann –
116 31-1 LUV-U-FRANK 27 (S) (F Farrant) M Pipe 6-11-0 ..... R Dunwoody –
117 8 MARKET GOSSIP 42 (R Tory) R Alner 5-11-0 ..... S Earle –
118 1- OTTOWA 244 (G) (P Barber) P Nicholls 5-11-0 ..... C Maude –
119 0-P4 SPIN ECHO 42 (R Waley-Cohen) R Waley-Cohen 5-11-0 ..... Peter Hobbs 72
120 0 VINTAGE CLARET 44 (Miss J Hall) J Gifford 6-11-0 ..... E Murphy 70

BETTING: 4-1 Braes Of Mar, 6-1 Garrylough, King Lucifer, 7-1 Go Ballistic, 8-1 Falmouth Bay, Luv-U-Frank, 10-1 Seod Rioga, 12-1 Ottowa, 16-1 Castle Chief, 20-1 Cottage Craft, Spin Echo, 25-1 others.

1994: MEETING ABANDONED — WATERLOGGED COURSE

FORM FOCUS

BRAES OF MAR beat Sublime Fellow 11¼l to 8-runner novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good), with SPIN ECHO (10lb better off) 30l. FALMOUTH BAY beat Princess Emlyn 3l in 12-runner novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft). GO BALLISTIC beat Native Alliance 8l in 10-runner novice hurdle at Leicester (2½, heavy). KING LUCIFER 8l 2nd of 8 to Roberty Lee in grade II Winter Novices' Hurdle at Sandown (2m 5f, good). SEOD RIOGA beat Over The Pole 1¼l in 10-runner novice hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, soft). CASTLE CHIEF 19l 4th of 11 to Ballymac Girl in novice hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, good to soft).

COTTAGE CRAFT 11½l 4th of 17 to Sweet Mignonette in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m, good). FLYING INSTRUCTOR 20l 6th of 12 to Bimsey in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, heavy). GARRYLOUGH 5l 2nd of 6 to Beside Not To in grade I Chatlow Hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, heavy). LUV-U-FRANK beat Wild West Wind 5l in 16-runner National Hunt Flat race at Uttoxeter (2m, soft). MARKET GOSSIP 34½l 6th of 13 to Pongo Waning in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good). OTTOWA beat You Know Who 2l in 21-runner National Hunt Flat race at Navan (2m, good). Selection: GARRYLOUGH

1.30 BUCKTAIL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,202: 2m) (8 runners)

201 P14P-6P ATLAAL 44 (CD,F,G,S) (D Donnelly) J Jenkins 10-11-12 ..... N Williamson 87
202 53111-6 SARTORIUS 99 (D,F,G,S) (M Pipe/Hon) T Thomson Jones 9-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 90
203 52112P DR ROCKET 14 (D,F,G,S) (The Rocketeers) R Dickin 10-11-0 ..... D Meredith 88
204 3P-P333 BRANDESTON 17 (D,F,S,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 10-11-0 ..... G Bazin (7) 87
205 52324-1 KIBREET 36 (D,F,G,S) (D Simester) L Cottrell 8-10-11 ..... A Maguire 94
206 P55-4/2 SAILORS LUCK 18 (D,G,S) (G Greenwood) P Murphy 10-10-10 ..... E Murphy 94
207 43-13F1 NEWLANDS-GENERAL 17 (D,G,S) (W Hancock) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-10-9 M Dwyer 89
208 F2P5-11 MEDINAS SWAN SONG 24 (D,G,S) (C Perry) R Hodges 7-10-0 ..... Peter Hobbs 95

Long handicap: Medinas Swan Song 9-9.

BETTING: 7-4 Sailors Luck, 5-2 Newlands-General, 6-1 Kibreet, 7-1 Medinas Swan Song, 8-1 Sartorius, 10-1 Dr Rocket, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

SARTORIUS beat Achilstowe head in handicap chase at Towcester (3m 110yd, firm) on penultimate start, with DR ROCKET (1lb worse off) 20l 3rd. DR ROCKET best recent effort beat Shrewd John 10l in handicap chase at Warwick (3m, good to soft). BRANDESTON 9l 3rd to Rouyan in handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. KIBREET beat Lucky Again 2l in handicap chase at Taunton (2m 3f, soft). SAILORS LUCK 2l 2nd to Around The Horn in handicap chase at Wincanton (2m, good) NEWLANDS GENERAL beat Wake Up 1¼l in novice chase at Wetherby (2m, soft). MEDINAS SWAN SONG best Major Bush 4l in novice handicap chase at Hereford (2m, good to soft).
Selection: SAILORS LUCK

2.05 SILVER DOCTOR OPEN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£5,038: 3m) (12 runners)

301 0/10124 THE BOILER WHITE 34 (F,S) (D Wilson) T Thomson Jones 7-11-10 ..... D Meade 87
302 222103

Tweseldown leads way with Sunday betting

Brian Beel looks ahead to an historic opening weekend of the new point-to-point season, which starts tomorrow

RACING history will be made at Tweseldown in two days' time when, at the Garth & South Berks point-to-point, betting will take place for the first time on a British racecourse on a Sunday.

It was point-to-pointing that pioneered Sunday racing on mainland Britain almost two years ago, and the sport now leads the way again in taking advantage of the amendment to the Sunday trading and gaming laws which came into effect at the start of the year, and now allows full betting to take place every day.

Thirty bookmakers are expected to stand at Tweseldown, and there will also be a fully computerised pool betting service operated by Data Tote. Racegoers will also have the opportunity to bet on the day's other sport, including televised football, at the new William Hill mobile betting facility which boasts 13 screens and a full text system.

During the course of the season 28 of the record total of 211 meetings will be held on Sundays. This day can also serve as a reserve when fixtures are postponed because of adverse weather.

Principal among the Sunday meetings is the National Point-to-Point Festival on May 7, again at Garthorpe. At this meeting the Jockey Club has modified the regulations for two of the races, the open and the novice championship, to enable, for the first time in this country, the participation of Irish qualified horses and riders. Citroën is again sponsoring the meeting.

Elsewhere, Land Rover remains the only national sponsor of a point-to-point series, culminating in a racecourse final. Celebrating the tenth anniversary of their nationwide men's open series, Land Rover will stage 28 qualifiers from which the first three home will be eligible to compete in a £6,000 final at Towcester on Friday, May 26.

Although the granting of a hunter certificate will be more stringently applied in the 1995 point-to-point season, it is unlikely to stem the upward trend of the sport's popularity. Last season saw the previous year's records broken for the number of meetings scheduled, the number of races run and the number of horses competing.

For the first time regularly and fairly hunted has been quantified to mean a minimum of seven outings. This has caused much debate as there has always been a dichotomy of opinion between those who hunt seriously and race for fun, and those who only regard hunting as the means for qualifying to race.

The livery yards more often than not fall into the second category, and their costs will increase with the need to employ more staff. It is difficult to imagine the owner/trainer shedding many tears over this. The problems that will arise are due to interpretation and inflexibility.

The previous regulations were not always viewed in the same light by different Masters of Hounds, and it is likely that there will be a wide variation in what constitutes an outing. One master might tell the rider of a fractious young thoroughbred, unruly at the meet, "Take him home and I'll sign your card," while another would expect a red ribbon to be put on his tail and still to see him out four hours later.

With about four months available for qualifying, seven outings do not seem to be too big an imposition for anyone but there will always be hard-luck stories. A minor injury is not uncommon and if the horse is just getting right when hunting is curtailed because of snow and frost, the owner's plans will be in chaos and he may even have to miss a season.

There are other minor changes in the 1995 regulations, one of which has been brought in to prevent a race being declared void when horses are stopped because of an obstruction at a fence caused by a first-circuit mêlée.

All fences now have to have a gap alongside, wide enough to divert the runners. This will be an easy task for those clerks of courses who use portable fences in the middle of fields, but it is distressing for landowners of courses where the fences are built into the natural hedgerows.

As the cause of the rule change only happens about once in 1,500 races, for it to occur at any one fence means the odds are about 12,000-1. Again, a little flexibility in the rule would have been wiser. An option of widening a fence might be preferred to bringing in the bulldozers.

One amendment, long overdue, to race scheduling is that it is now no longer mandatory to have a race confined to members. This is invariably the worst race on the card both in terms of quality and quantity. But providing another option might have been preferable, in some cases, to total abandonment.

This is the only race in which an unregistered horse can run but the rules allow any mix of ability and an owner can enter his winning hunter chaser to run against the no-hopers at level weights. The conditions could have been changed to run some hunt races on an area basis, perhaps limited to unregistered horses and ridden by riders who have had fewer than three winners.

The link between hunting and point-to-pointing would then have been fostered and novice riders would have had an ideal event in which to gain experience.

Tarry creates working order out of chaos

Jenny MacArthur meets a rider bringing an individual approach to his title challenge

IAN STEWART



Tarry gives a well-deserved pat to the home-bred Fine Lace, winner of seven races last season, and a stalwart of his Northamptonshire yard

Last season was James Tarry's most successful in 25 years of point-to-pointing. He won 20 races and finished third behind Nigel Bloom (22) and Damien Duggan (21) in the men's championship.

Nineteen of the wins came on horses which Tarry and his father, Bunny, had bred, broken in and trained. But the feat which gave Tarry the greatest pleasure came at his local Grafton meeting in March, when the family had a home-bred runner in each of the eight races. "I don't think there's any that can match that," Tarry says.

Their approach to the sport is also unmatched. Little of the 20th century intrudes on their Northamptonshire yard where they have been sending out winners for two generations. Hens and cockerels perch on window sills, beams — and horses' backs.

Stables of every shape and size are contained within an ancient stone barn which flanks the family's manor home. Piles of straw lie about, the yard among old tractor wheels, drinking troughs and farming implements. The adjoining fields of the 450-acre farm are teeming with unbroken horses. "Too many to count," Tarry said.

The 18 inside, headed by Saybright and Fine Lace, have non-stop entertainment. While those in 'professional' yards look out on clean swept concrete walkways, the Tarry horses, last Sunday, were busy watching Bunny and Tarry's sister, Moira, trying to herd three ducks and assorted fowl up the ramp of a horsebox to secure them for the night against a marauding fox. This done, heads turned as a bright chestnut foal came cantering, unaccompanied, into the yard. "He's an orphan foal," Bunny explained, "he's like a cade lamb — follows my granddaughter, Rosie, everywhere."

Tarry's day is as frenetic as the activity in the yard. He has no problem keeping fit — or maintaining his weight of ten stone. He rides up to 12 horses each day. The last two months have been spent qualifying the 18 horses which will race this season, helped by Andrew Sansome, the stable's reserve rider, and Heather Irving. In the summer he breaks in the young horses and makes hay.

The feeding routine alone would be enough to keep him fit. Hay for the 18 horses has to be lugged into tin baths each day to be soaked. An hour at each end of the day is spent mixing feed. This takes place in a draughty barn where the noise from the cockerels on the high beams rises to fever pitch as they watch Tarry, like a latter-day alchemist, silently mixing potions.

The contents of each feed — like Tarry's age — are a closely-guarded secret. Nothing is written down: "If I had a bad accident I'd have to give instructions for each horse from my bed."

Considering the horses he rides — variously described in the latest edition of *Mackenzie and Selby* as "excitable", "takes a demonic hold" and "virtually bolts in the lead" — he has got away lightly. His worst injury, sustained at home, was a broken leg in January, 1985, which kept him on crutches until May.

At the Grafton meeting last March he broke his collarbone in a fall from Sporting Lark in the seventh race. In the eighth Sansome donned the distinctive blue, red and white colours — for the first time —, and won on Solar Point.

"All I told him was to take it steady," Tarry said, clearly proud of Sansome's achievement. Had it been his own win he would have finished even higher in the championship — but Tarry no more mentions that than the 127 point-to-points and 17 races under Rules he has won.

There might have been none. His introduction to the sport, in the 1960s, was not propitious. His father bought an old horse called Flaming Minstrel and on his first outing Tarry pulled up when his feet, encased in hunting boots, kept coming out of the stirrups of his hunting saddle. On his second outing at Dingley the horse fell. Tarry remounted and finished last.

At the time he was rearing calves in the barns now used for horses. He might have stuck to that had it not been for an advertisement in *Horse & Hound* offering two mares for sale — Ebony Bloom and Manor Lady — from Lucy Jones's Somerset yard. These two mares — later joined by Grecian Lace and Spartan Lace from the same yard — formed the foundation of the Tarrys' breeding enterprise.

In 1971 in the Open race at the Meynell meeting at Losenford, Ebony Bloom supplied Tarry with his first win. "I couldn't believe it," he said. "We were still learning — the only schooling she had was a jump over a thorn hedge up at the top of the farm."

As the yard began to put itself on the breeding map — bolstered by the acquisition of the stallion, St Columbus, from the Thorne family — Tarry developed a reputation for his fearless, if unorthodox, riding. This he attributes to the "nutcase of a pony" he had as a child, and to his mother's father, Tom Harris, who used to sort out the unrideable horses from the nearby Weedon cavalry school.

Out hunting, Tarry is generally to be avoided. One day, out with the Grafton, an onlooker commented on the antics of one of his horses. "He's only been broken a week," came the reply.

Nothing daunts him. Saybright, the winner of 14 races, took a year to break in. "He got his head stuck in the branch of a tree when he was a foal and every time I got on him he reared up. But I found a way in the end."

Lloyds Loser (named by his owner, Lord Gage) is also difficult. "James is the only one who can ride him," Bunny said, not without pride. "The horse just panics and has his rider off in no time. Most unfortunate."

Tarry, who is determined to have another stab at the championship, hopes to make his seasonal debut at the Oxford University meeting at Kingston Blount at the end of the month. On race days the family is out in force. Moira and her daughters often lead a horse in the paddock, Faith, Tarry's younger sister, does all the entries and sorts out the kit. Sheila, Tarry's mother, cleans the trophies and makes sure the correct one is returned. Bunny, in his smock, presides over all and Tarry himself concentrates on what he does best — riding winners.

Hereford opens Times Rising Stars qualifiers

BY BRIAN BEEL

THE January start to the point-to-point season, introduced last year, gives the sport a lead of almost three weeks over hunter chasing, which commences with meetings at Kelso and Lingfield Park on February 3. At Hereford, ten days later, the first of *The Times* Rising Stars qualifiers will be held.

The third running of this series will not really come to life until the following month, when the other six qualifiers take place before the £10,000 final, again at Newbury.

The purpose of the series is to encourage the successful young point-to-pointer to compete against, on advantageous terms, those that have already made their mark in hunter chases. If all the allowances and penalties are taken into account, there can be a difference of 29lb carried between the top and bottom-weighted runners, 17lb more than if the same horses were to meet in a point-to-point.

The series is unique in the *Racing Calendar*, as it is confined to certified hunters who are qualified to run in point-to-points.

RISING STARS QUALIFIERS: Hereford, February 13; Wetherby, March 1; Kelso, March 3; Leicester, March 7; Market Rasen, March 10; Taunton, March 13; Lingfield Park, March 17; Newbury (final), March 24.

With ammunition provided mainly by Richard Barber's powerful West Country stable, Polly Curling looks to be unbeatable for the ladies' riding championship. The main question is whether or not she can beat Philip Scholfield's record of 37 winners in a season, achieved in 1988.

Curling would surely have surpassed this total last year had she not broken her wrist when her score stood on 32. She was kept out of the saddle for almost a month, but came back to ride three more winners in the dying embers of the season and beat, by nine, Alison Dare's three-year-old record.

For the first time in the history of the sport the men had been put firmly in their place as Nigel Bloom, winner of the men's championship, rode only 22. He emerged the champion, by dint of winning the last race of the season, so breaking away from the three-way tie with Jim Tarry and Damien Duggan.

It is highly unlikely that the men's total will be very different this year. Duggan is the favourite but, although he will again have the valuable backing of Peter Bowen's stable, his odds of 2-1 look ridiculously short and are mainly due to some hefty bets laid at the end of last season.

Bloom suffered a dislocated shoulder and rib injuries a fortnight ago and will not be competing until the third week of the season, at the earliest. Among his new rides out of the stable of his father, Michael, are Kamtara, the winner of a division of the maiden at the Newry Harriers in Ireland, and two bought unbroken at the Punchestown sales.

Alastair Crow, the 1993 champion, never got into his stride last year after breaking a collarbone and missing three weeks straddling the busy Easter period. His mother, Sheila, has her usual full stable and her brother, Gordon Edwards, has also three or four for his nephew to ride.

Leading outsider to a plethora of jockeys who normally ride between 15 and 20 winners each season, is Jim Culloty. The Irishman, who is assistant to Whitestone trainer, Jackie Retter, rode four winners in his first season over here and increased his tally to 13 last year. He will get many outside rides, including some from the yard of David Barons, the former National Hunt handler who recently relinquished his license to train under Rules.

January

14: Army at Larkhill; North Norfolk Harriers at Higham.

15: Garth & South Berks at Tweseldown.

21: Point-to-Point Owners' Club at Barbury Castle; South Devon at Haldon.

22: Cambridgeshire Harriers at Cottenham.

28: Hursley Hambledon at Badbury Rings; West Percy & Milvain at Alnwick.

29: Suffolk at Ampton.

February

4: New Forest at Larkhill; North Cornwall at Wadebridge; Old Raby Hunt Club at Witton Castle; Oxford University Hunt Club at Kingston Blount; Thurlow at Horseheath.

11: Badsworth at Wetherby; East Cornwall at Great Trethew; Easton Harriers at Hugham, Haydon at Hedham; South Dorset at Milborne St Andrew; South Midlands Area Club at Heythrop; Vale of Clettwr at Erw Lon.

12: Tweseldown Club at Tweseldown.

18: Essex Farmers & Union at Marks Tey; Lanarkshire & Renfrewshire at Lanark; Lincolnshire United Hunts Club at Market Rasen; South Pool Harriers at Bishops Court; United Services at Larkhill; West Shropshire at Weston Park.

25: Berwickshire at Friars Haugh; Bolventor Harriers at Lemalla; Cambridge University Harriers at Cottenham; Mendip Farmers at Castle of Comfort; Mid Surrey Farmers Draghounds at Charing; North Herefordshire at Whitwick Manor; Pembrokeshire at Lydstep; South Durham at Mordon.

26: Cornwall Bloodhounds at Southwell.

March

4: Brocklesby at Brocklesby Park; Chiddingfold, Leconfield & Cowdray at Parham; Duke of Beaufort's at Didmarton; Dunston Harriers at Ampton; East Devon at Clyst St Mary; Sinnington at Duncombe Park; South Cornwall at Great Trethew; Tanatside at Eyton-on-Severn; Twyside at Pantyderi; Tynedale at Corbridge.

5: Bicester with Whaddon Chase at Mollington.

8: South Herefordshire at Garnons.

11: Avon Vale at Barbury Castle; Brecon at Llanlynach; Cotswold at Garthorpe; Cumberland Farmers at Dalston; Derwent at Charm Park; Flint & Denbigh at Eaton Hall; North Ledbury at Upton-on-Severn; Oakley at Newton Bromswold; Silverton at Haldon; South East Hunts Club at Charing; Waveney Harriers at Higham; West Somerset Vale at Kingston St Mary.

18: Cambridgeshire at Horseheath; Carmarthenshire at Lydstep; Dart Vale & Haldon Harriers at Bishops Court; Eglinton at Lanark; Farmers' Draghounds at Heythrop; Holderness at Dalton Park; New Forest Buckhounds at Larkhill; Quantock Staghounds at Williton; Wheatland at Eyton-on-Severn.

19: Blankeney at Southwell; Cleveland at Skelton; Ross Harriers at Garnons; Staff College & RMA Draghounds at Tweseldown; West Street-Tickham at Detling.

25: Clifton-on-Teme at Upper Sapey; Crawley & Horsham at Parham; Duke of Buccleuch's at Friars Haugh; Essex at High Easter; Holcombe at Whattington; Hurworth at Mordon; Lamerton at Kilworthy; Llangibby at Howick; South Wold at Market Rasen; Vale of White Horse at Siddington; Weston & Banwell Harriers at Williton; Wilton at Badbury Rings.

April

1: Belvoir at Garthorpe; Bramham Moor at Wetherby; Cattistock at Little Windsor; Cheshire at Alpraham; East Essex at Marks Tey; Grafton at Mollington; Harkaway Club at Cheddesley Corbett; Monmouthshire at Llanvapley; Morpeth at Tranwell; Royal Artillery at Larkhill; Western at Wadebridge.

2: Sir W W Wynn's at Eaton Hall; Southdown & Eridge at Heathfield.

4: Dumfriesshire at Lockerbie; Heythrop at Heythrop.

8: Burton at Market Rasen; Curre at Howick; Puckeridge at Horseheath; Spooners & West Dartmoor at Cheriybrook; United Pack at Brampton Bryan.

9: Blackmore & Sparkford Vale at Charlton Horthorne; Cheshire Forest at Sudlow Farm; Isle of Wight at Barbury Castle; Jedforest at Friars Haugh; Middleton at Whitwell-on-the-Hill; Pytchley at Guilsborough.

13: Mid Devon at Clyst St Mary.

15: Ashford Valley at Charing; Axe Vale Harriers at Stafford Cross; Bedale & West of Yore at Hornby Castle; Essex & Suffolk at Higham; Glamorgan (evening) at St Hilary; Ledbury at Melsemore Park; Ludlow at Bitterley; North Staffordshire at Sandon; Percy at Alnwick; Portman at Badbury Rings; Vale of Aylesbury at Kimble; Vale of Lune at Whittington; Windsor Forest Bloodhounds at Tweseldown; Woodland Pytchley at Dingley.

17: Braes of Derwent at Tranwell; East Kent at Aldington; Eggesford at Bishopsleigh; Essex Farmers & Union at Marks Tey; Four Burrow at Wadebridge; North Cotswold at Andoversford; Old Berkshire at Lockinge; South, Notts at Thorpe Lodge; South Pembrokeshire at Lydstep; South Shropshire at Eyton-on-Severn; Southdown & Eridge at Heathfield; Staintondale at Charm Park; Taunton Vale at Kingston St Mary; Vine & Craven at Hackwood Park.

18: Croome & West Warwickshire at Upton-on-Severn; High Peak Harriers at Flagg Moor.

19: Tiverton at Stallenge Thorne.

22: Bicester with Whaddon Chase at Kingston Blount; Cumberland at Aspatria; Dartmoor at Rete Park; Fitzwilliam at Cottenham; Meynell & South Staffordshire at Sandon; Pentlych at Llantwit Major; Quorn at Garthorpe; South & West Wiltshire at Larkhill; West Kent at Penhurst; Worcestershire at Cheddesley Corbett; York & Ainsty at Essingwold.

26: Cotswold (evening) at Andoversford; Tetna Valley at Brampton Bryan.

29: Albrighton at Weston Park; Atherstone at Clifton-on-Dunsmore; Berkeley at Woodford; Bilsdale at Easingwold; Fife at Balcormo Mains; Llangibnor at Margam; Tiverton Staghounds at Bratton Down; West Norfolk at Fakenham.

30: Berks & Bucks Draghounds at Barbury Castle; East Sussex & Romney Marsh at Bexhill; Grove & Rufford at Southwell; Sepvington at Littlewindsor; West Midlands & Welsh Borders at Bitterley.

May

6: Devon & Somerset Staghounds at Holnicote; Gelligaer Farmers (evening) at Magor; Lauderdale at Mosshouses; Modbury Harriers at Rete Park; Old Surrey & Burstow at Penshurst; Pendle Forest & Craven at Gisburn.

7: National Point-to-Point Festival at Garthorpe.

8: Banwen Miners at Llanwit Major; Cotley at Cotley Farm; Enfield Chace at Northaw; Hampshire at Hackwood Park; North Shropshire at Eyton-on-Severn; Radnor & West Herefordshire at Cursneh Hill; Stevenstone at High Bickington; Warwickshire (evening) at Ashorne; West Street-Tickham at Aldington; Zetland at Witton Castle.

13: Border at Corbridge; Cambridge University United Hunts Club (evening) at Cottenham; Fernie at Dingley; Golden Valley at Bredwardine; Llandeilo Farmers at Erw Lon; Minehead Harriers & West Somerset at Holnicote; Surrey Union at Peper Harow; Tadworth at Barbury Castle; Talcott (evening) at Lifton; Vale of Aylesbury at Kinston Blount.

14: Cotswold Vale Farmers (evening) at Maisemore Park.

20: College Valley & North Northumberland at Alnwick; Dulverton East at Bratton Down; Melton Hunt at Garthorpe; Ystrad at Bassaleg.

21: Thames Valley Combined Hunts Club at Tweseldown.

27: Dulverton East at Mounsey Hill Gate, Melton Hunt at Garthorpe; Tradegar Farmers at Bassaleg.

29: Albrighton Woodland at Cheddesley Corbett; South Tetcott at Lifton.

June

3: Exmoor at Bratton Down.

4: Harborough Hunts Club at Dingley.

10: Torrington Farmers at Umberleigh.

New series at Barbury Castle

RACEGOERS at each of the Barbury Castle meetings this season will have a bonus attraction in the form of a race over timber for the Marlborough Cup (Brian Beel writes). The races will be run over three miles with 18 obstacles, mainly made of solid timber.

Dispensation has been received from the Jockey Club for this series to allow any horse of proven ability to compete be it an eventer, hunter or chaser from a licensed yard. Four preparatory races will be held, one at each scheduled point-to-point, on the old established gallops adjacent to the course. For these normal point-to-point prize-money will be awarded to the placed horses but for the final, on May 14, a staggering £20,000 is at stake.



صكناس الاعلى

Bolton and Swindon in league of their own

By Peter Ball

FOR the first time since the Premier League clubs broke away in 1992, there will be a Football League team in the Coca-Cola Cup final. The semi-final draw yesterday paired Bolton Wanderers with Swindon Town, leaving Liverpool to face FA Carling Premiership opposition in Crystal Palace.

Even if the odds are miserly, after their 1-0 win over Arsenal on Wednesday, Liverpool are understandably favourites to win the competition, which they dominated in the early Eighties, when they won it in four successive years. At the start of the season, Roy Evans proclaimed a place in Europe as a legitimate ambition for his team after the upheavals of the last two seasons.

Liverpool are on course to achieve that through their Premiership placing, but in their great years they used to win the League Cup, in its various guises, almost as insurance in case anything went wrong in the league. They seem to be reverting to tradition, although this year the cup itself is important, if only as a symbol that the club is returning to health.

"At this stage of the competition there are no easy games," Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said. "The two-legged matches make it slightly less dicey, but having said that, we have lost over two matches before, home and away to Bristol City and Bolton.

"We have still got a lot to do to win it, but I'm delighted we seem to be going along the right road. We don't look back, but we have got to remember the past. They were brilliant days, and we are now looking to build our own image to go alongside the old one."

They will be wary of Crystal Palace, however. To describe any club as Liverpool's bogy team would be stretching a point, but they have enjoyed some significant cup success against Liverpool in recent years.

In 1990 they exposed the first signs of vulnerability in Kenny Dalglish's champions when they came from behind to win a sensational FA Cup semi-final 4-3, and two years ago, in the more shaky Souness era, they knocked Liverpool out of the Coca-Cola Cup in a replay at Selhurst Park.

This season's league form is inconclusive. Liverpool's 6-1 win over Palace at Selhurst Park on the opening day of offers little comfort to their opponents, but Palace have tightened up since then, and can point to a draw, goalless of course, at Anfield. After a barren spell of nine hours without a goal, Palace have scored nine in their last two matches, both cup-ties. They have, at least, the advantage of being at home in the second leg.

Like Bolton, they have never reached the final of this competition, and will not lack incentive, but, with the ties played over two legs, as Evans pointed out, it is hard to imagine Liverpool losing out this time so close to Wembley. It is more likely that Ian Rush, who has scored six goals in four games in the competition this season, will claim the two more goals he needs to equal Geoff Hurst's record of 49.

The other tie is more finely balanced, although Bolton will start as favourites. Swindon achieved one of the most popular giant-killing acts in football's history when, as a third division team, they beat Arsenal in the final in 1969.

That side had Don Rogers; this team has Jan Aage Fjortoft, and Bolton will need to beware of him. But the Lancashire side is now running at full throttle towards the top of the Endsleigh Insurance League, as well as maintaining its imperious recentcup progress, which has seen it defeat nine Premiership sides under Bruce Rioch, with Liverpool among its victims. Bolton reached the sixth round of the FA Cup last year.

They have apparently had less success against their peers, going out of the FA Cup meekly at Portsmouth last Saturday. But with McAteer being watched closely by Liverpool, the elegant defender, Stubbs, much admired, and with craft and pace on the wings, they look to have too much all round strength for Steve McMahon's team.

They certainly have more support. A Liverpool-Bolton final would have resonance beyond what is often a mundane occasion. Liverpool-Swindon would have some romantic appeal; a Crystal Palace-Swindon final might be an entertaining game, but is probably the stuff of Coca-Cola executives' nightmares, featuring empty seats and televisions tuned away from ITV.

SEMI-FINALS

Liverpool v Crystal Palace
Swindon v Bolton

First leg to be played week commencing February 12: second leg to be played week commencing February 19



The Manchester United trio of Andy Cole, left, Gary Pallister and Paul Ince, right, fly the flag for the England football team's new sponsorship at its official launch at Old Trafford yesterday. The Football Association's historic deal with Green Flag is worth more than £4 million. As well as backing the national team's games, Green Flag, best known in Britain for its National Breakdown subsidiary, will have a presence at the FA Cup Final and other important matches. Under the deal, which lasts until 1998, England will receive performance bonuses for games in the European championship next year. Home games at Wembley will be known as Green Flag internationals and squad members will display the company logo on their training kit.

Kendall aims to keep County up

By Peter Ball

HOWARD KENDALL, one of the most successful football managers of his generation, yesterday returned to the English game with Notts County, the club at the bottom of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division.

It appears an unlikely position for Kendall, who resigned from Everton 13 months ago to coach Xanthi, in Greece, and whose record marks him out as one of the game's outstanding managers. After a successful start with Blackburn Rovers he had his greatest success in the mid-Eighties with Everton, bringing them two championships, the FA Cup and Cup Winners' Cup before going to Spain to manage Athletic Bilbao with some distinction.

On his return to England he worked at Manchester City before returning to Everton, rather less successfully. Five years ago he turned down an interview for the position of England manager, and more recently was linked with Wales. He was widely expected to take over at Ipswich Town last month, but Ipswich preferred one of their former players, George Burley.

With several other FA Carling Premiership posts filled in the last two months, Kendall has returned lower down the ladder. "I've had a lot of good times in the game, and desperately want some more," he said. "I'm only 48, and still think I've got a lot to offer."

He is Notts County's third manager this season, following Mick Walker, who was dismissed in September, and Russell Slade, who succeeded Walker. Slade will stay as Kendall's assistant.

The team has won only four games this season, but a victory over Tottenham Hotspur in the Coca-Cola Cup and a draw last Sunday with Manchester City in the FA Cup, when they were twice ahead, suggests there is some talent for him to work on. "Obviously my aim is to keep Notts County in the first division and I genuinely believe I can achieve that," Kendall said. "The cup results show there is a nucleus of a good side."

Steve McCall will remain as manager of Plymouth Argyle, the second division club, until the end of the season. McCall, 34, was put in temporary charge last week in place of Peter Shilton, who had been suspended and who left Home Park on Wednesday.

McIlroy decides to stay at Macclesfield

Non-League Football by Walter Gammie

A WEEK of managerial upheaval in the Vauxhall Conference has seen Dover Athletic dismiss Chris Kinnear, their manager since November 1985, Yeovil Town show the door to Brian Hall, for the second time, and Macclesfield Town sigh with the relief as Sammmy McIlroy rebuffed Rochdale's overtures to join them. Aldershot Town, of the Diadora League, must also seek a replacement for Steve Wignall, who they believed would take them to the Conference, after his appointment as manager of Colchester United.

McIlroy's decision to stay at Moss Rose reflects Macclesfield's present position at the head of the table. "I felt I had to try to finish the job at Macclesfield," McIlroy said. Part of that task is to persuade the Endsleigh Insurance League to accept the club, if they go on to win the championship, after delays to building work meant that the ground failed to meet the required standards by the deadline of December 31.

The league also rejected a possible groundshare proposal with Chester City because it now rules that a club should play within its conurbation. Chester spent two years playing at Moss Rose after the club sold Sealand Road and while the Deva Stadium was being built, so Moss Rose was obviously then up to standard. "Our chairman thinks there's a loophole and he's taking legal advice about the league's rulings," McIlroy said. Arthur Jones, the chairman, meanwhile, recognised McIlroy's loyalty with a new two-year contract.

Dover's slump in form, with defeats in four days by Halifax Town and Farnborough Town, has left them in the clutch of clubs above Stafford Rangers and Yeovil, but Kinnear's achievements at the club made his dismissal a shock. Not so Hall's, whose departure was inevitable the moment Yeovil crashed out of the FA Cup in the fourth qualifying round at Walton and Hersham last October.

Yeovil have since slipped to bottom in the Conference and the crowd average dropped to 1,891 from last season's 2,495. John Fry, a club director, is trying to raise a package that will inject much-needed finance. The size of the club's debts — still standing at £500,000 — made Hall's task almost impossible.

Chance for pace-setting Sharks to get teeth into trophy

By Nicholas Harling

IMAGINE Wimbledon on the basketball court, a team scrapping, battling to the point of intimidation and going against everything that the purists stand for. And there you have Sheffield Sharks, the team that is striding away with the Budweiser League in their first season.

To those who say they have not beaten anyone of note, even after last weekend's two wins over title contenders, the Sharks will have the perfect reply if they capture the 7-Up Trophy tonight. Their opponents in the NEC at Birmingham are Thames Valley Tigers, the holders and league champions, who 11 days ago also regained the world invitation club championship.

There is no real form guide to go on. Even though the season is past halfway, the clubs still have to fulfil all three league fixtures. But one thing is certain — the Tigers are worried. After their home league defeat by Doncaster Panthers last Saturday, Steve Bucknall, the top-scoring Tiger, said: "Some people still don't have 100 per cent respect for Sheffield but I do."

Jim Brandon, the Sheffield coach, makes no bones about his team's unaesthetic approach. A genial 35-year-old New Yorker, who spent two years playing for Sunderland before his career took him to Brixton, Calderdale, Manchester and Leicester, Brandon established his philosophy during five years in Saudi Arabia where he was coach to the national military and national junior teams.

Chris Wright, chairman of the Chrysalis Group, and Mike Gudinski, the Australian chairman of Mushroom Records, decided that Brandon was the man for them when they formed the new club which was accepted straight into the Budweiser League.

"My goal was respectability," Brandon said, "and by that I was reasonably looking at sixth or seventh place in the league." Yet, with the help of what he describes as an "obscure and unknown team", Brandon now looks down on the rest of the league.

He plumped for two Americans, Chris Finch and Todd Cauthorn, backed up by some extremely able English players. "Some of the guys haven't played at this level before but the chemistry in our team is unbelievable," Brandon said. "If I could have hand-picked them, I couldn't have come up with a better mix.

"Most teams are not used to seeing other people's noses in their faces. We get into their comfort zones and that knocks them out of the game. We're out-bottling people."

If it all sounds horribly like Wimbledon, Brandon is making no excuses.

Resurgent Griffiths takes cue to further challenge

By Phil Yates

TERRY GRIFFITHS and Willie Thorne, two of snooker's household names from the days when the sport first became a television attraction, showed their pedigree in reaching the quarter-finals of the Liverpool/Victoria Charity Challenge in Birmingham yesterday.

Both have found success thin on the ground in recent years but Griffiths, in surprisingly beating Ken Doherty 5-1, and Thorne, in whitewashing Darren Morgan 5-0, committed few errors while scoring heavily throughout.

Griffiths, at 47 the oldest competitor in the 16-man field, unexpectedly beat Steve Davis in the last 16 of the European Open four weeks ago, and the solid form he displayed in Antwerp was again evident against Doherty.

With his confidence renewed by a change of cue during the summer, Griffiths is at last beginning to play with the authority which was his trade mark during the late 1970s and early Eighties.

"It takes a lot of courage to swap cues at my age but I haven't played well for so long that I figured I didn't have a lot to lose," said Griffiths, who relied upon John Parris. Davis's cue doctor, to manufacture a replacement.

The cue Griffiths is now using to great effect is more rigid than his old one and the 1979 world champion is convinced that it has aided, if not directly caused, his recent rejuvenation.

Breaks of 84, 66, 61 and 51 carried Griffiths into a 3-0 lead and, although Doherty cleared the colours to steal the fourth frame on the black, Griffiths won the next with a 30 clearance for 4-1, completing victory with a run of 61 in frame six. Griffiths now meets Davis, who beat Tony Drago 5-1 in a generally poor-quality match.

Thorne, supposedly short of practice, gave the appearance of someone who has been living at the table when he took only 71 minutes to eliminate Morgan.

Whenever Thorne approaches his peak, sizeable breaks inevitably follow and yesterday was no exception. Thorne, 40, compiled breaks of 69, 40, 53, 52 and a 108 which could have been a 142 total clearance had he not missed a relatively straightforward black.

RESULTS

First round

W Thorne (Eng) bt D Morgan (Wales) 5-0; T Griffiths (Wales) bt K Doherty (Ire) 5-1; S Davis (Eng) bt A Drago (Malta) 5-1. Wednesday's late result: S Hendry (Scot) bt J Swail (N Ire) 5-2.

England A selectors moving to Weekes

PAUL WEEKES, the Middlesex all-rounder, seems sure to win a place in the England A cricket team for the first five-day international against India A, which starts tomorrow in Bangalore.

Weekes was left out of the drawn match against the Board President's XI in Madras but the team management believes it needs three front-line spin bowlers for the international game and Weekes's batting skills are likely to see him preferred to Min Patel as support for Ian Salisbury and Richard Stemp.

Mark Ilott's worrying side injury has already ruled him out of the match and the Essex fast bowler could find himself out of the tour if his injury does not respond to treatment during the next few days.

With Mark Ramprakash now fit again after a throat infection, the last batting place would appear to rest between the Yorkshire opening batsman, Michael Vaughan, and the Glamorgan left-hander, David Hemp.

ENGLAND A (probable): N V Knight, J E R Gallian, M R Ramprakash, A P Wells (captain), D L Hemp, P N Weekes, D G Cork, P A Neron, I D K Salisbury, G Chapple, R D Stemp.

☐ New Zealand's slim chances against the touring West Indies were reduced even further yesterday when Martin Crowe, 32, ruled himself out of the two-Test series.

He has been dogged in recent years by a persistent injury to his right knee, which flared up again during New Zealand's recent visit to South Africa.

Give five nations' spectacular a nudge into spring



GERALD DAVIES
Rugby Commentary

THIS is the time of year, after the march to the bleak midwinter when the days grew shorter, the fuel bills longer, that we embark on the gradual incline downwards to the sights and smells of springtime. The calendar suggests that these should be some way off yet. But next week the five nations' championship begins. This is the cheerful January ritual which is a portent that spring is closer than we think. The tournament has that happy knack of shortening the winter.

With international matches every fortnight presenting us with something to look forward to and a good deal to talk about in between, we will soon turn around and notice that the daffodils have arrived.

But plans are afoot, initiated in Scotland, to consider shifting the international season to start in the middle of February and end in April. What to do over Easter, with its traditional activities and celebrations, is a sticking point.

There are a couple of reasons for the proposed change. The first is that the main section of this annual championship takes place during a period when Europeans suffer the worst weather. Six out of the ten games are played during January and February.

There was a time when the tournament, arranged largely on the basis of one match each Saturday, stretched from January to April. These matches were in fixed order. To make sure that the competition went off with a bang and everybody paid attention, Wales, you understand, always played England first and, when in Cardiff, invariably in the mud. France were last. This meant, biennially, Wales played the French, dread of all dreads, with the sun on their backs. It was something to fear. They were so different, so sleek-looking, suntanned and suave. The British and Irish, emerging were made to look gauche and drab, leaden-footed and predictable. The French team, drawn largely from the warm south, were in exuberant mood. They ran as if with a glass of sparkling vintage in their veins, heavy beer in ours. April, in those days, could indeed be the cruellest month.

But shifting the season would provide more agreeable conditions for players and spectators alike.

The second reason for the proposed revision of the international season is the congestion of fixtures: league and cup competitions, international and, in England's case, divisional commitments.

Wales, for instance, have only partially succeeded this season in arranging that no league matches take place on the Saturdays before the internationals. England have also had their difficulties in attempting to accommodate national demands with club requirements. There is, it is argued, too much pressure. But, surely, with the club programme committing a player to only 20-odd games a season, is not too much to ask. Any less, and the club fixtures would be empty of meaning.

This is surely not pressure if, on the other hand, on the days the players are meant to be resting they are invited/-threatened to appear at weekend squad sessions. It is these demands which produce the pressure, not necessarily the matches they play.

Whatever benefits may accrue from this preparation, it is actual matches that make them better players or, at any rate, make them more in tune with the game's more realistic requirements.

However, with national coaches seeking more time to be with their charges and the disruption this causes, it could be argued that a more practical solution might be to shift the international season away from that period where the most congestion is found. The problem, however, might be eased but it will not go away.

Only the removal of the five nations' championship to the end of the season would do that and, with touring commitments, the new World Cup qualifying matches and so on, new obstacles would arise. Such a move if it ever came about could prove to be the first step in the dismantling of the championship altogether. And who in his right senses would wish such a fate.

So I will stay, if you don't mind, with the meteorological reasons for giving the international season a nudge.

Butland makes debut as Bath rest Catt

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

CONTRARY to the expectation of Jack Rowell, the England manager, Bath will rest Mike Catt when they play Northampton tomorrow in the Courage Clubs Championship. Of their four England players selected to meet Ireland next week, they have opted to play Jerry Guscott and to introduce Richard Butland for his first league game.

Butland, a student in aeronautical engineering at Bath University, will play opposite Paul Grayson, England's latest A-team selection at stand-off half. His colleagues will include, at No 8, the restless Steve Ojomoh, who earlier this week announced that he had registered to play for Northampton next season.

The unlucky Paul Hull, who was displaced by Catt from the England team, makes his comeback tomorrow after leaving the field with an Achilles' tendon injury during the international match against Canada last month. He will play for Bristol at Sale.

Leicester, the other club to give four players to the England cause at Lansdowne Road, will play Dean Richards against Orrell and bring Andrew McAdam on to the wing after a long absence. His previous league appearance this season was the away game with Orrell, which Leicester won 6-0.

Orrell themselves will give a league debut to Martin Scott, who was named yesterday at hooker in the Scotland A team to play France at Hughenden next Friday. Scott, once of Dunfermline and Edinburgh Academicals, came to prominence in 1992 when, as a late addition to the Scottish touring party in Australia, he won his only cap. Since then he has made an A team appearance against the French and, last November, played for a Scottish Select XV against the South Africans.

Orrell hope that his aggressive game and accurate throwing will complement the return, after a nine-month absence, of Charles Cusani at lock. Injury and business commitments have kept Cusani out of the first team since last April's appearance, also against Leicester, when he was sent off; he is joined in the pack by Jeff Huxley at open-side flanker and John Russell at tight-head prop.

SCOTLAND A (to play France A at Hughenden, Glasgow, on Jan 20): R J S Shepherd (Edinburgh Academicals); H R Gilmour (Heriot's FP), S Hastings (Watsonians), B R S Eriksson (London Scottish), M E Appleson (Sale); S Laing (Instonians), G Burns (Stewart's Melville FP); D I W Hilton (Bath), M W Scott (Orrell), D J Herrington (Dundee High School FP), F D Wallace (Glasgow HK), J F Richardson (Edinburgh Academicals), D S Munro (Glasgow HK), I R Smith (Gloucester), S J Reid (Boroughmuir) Replacements: M Dods (Gala), D W Hodge (Watsonians), K Troup (London Scottish), A E D Macdonald (Heriot's FP), J J Manson (Dundee High School FP), J A Hay (Hawick).

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

ACROPHOBIA
(c) Morbid dread of heights, hence *acrophobic*, from the Greek *akron* a peak or height + *phobia* panic, dread, phobia.

GEMELLION
(b) One of a pair of basins used for washing the hands before meals, the water being poured over the hands from one basin and caught by the other, hence, any decorative basin, specifically in liturgical use, *gemellio*, from *gemellus* a twin.

CULICIFUGE
(a) A substance applied to the body or to the clothing in order to keep gnats and mosquitoes away, hence *culicifugal*, from the Latin *culex, culicis* a gnat + *-fuge* making to flee, routing.

BUNCO
(a) A swindle perpetrated by means of card-sharping or some form of confidence trick, said to be an adaptation of the Spanish *banca*, a card-game similar to monte. "The bunco-artists from the lunatic fringe of the Democratic party."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Ne5! wins, e.g. 1 ... fxe5; 2 Qf6+ Ke8; 3 Qxh8+ Ke7; 4 Qf8 mate; or 1 ... dxe5; 2 Qxf6+ Kd6; 3 Rfd1 again mating.

Bloem's hopes of shorter ban dashed


Bloem: suspended

By Christopher Irvine

JAMIE Bloem, the Doncaster full back, yesterday lost his appeal against the length of his two-year suspension from rugby league for taking anabolic steroids.

The sport's appeals committee endorsed the ban, the maximum permissible under the by-laws of the Rugby Football League (RFL). Bloem, 23, tested positive for the steroid, nandrolene, with evidence of testosterone administration, after Doncaster's Stones Bitter Championship match against St Helens on November 8.

In a statement after the 75-minute hearing in Leeds, the three-man committee noted that power and bulk are vital to success in rugby league and could turn an average player into a better one.

Bloem, a South African, arrived in England in 1993 as a stripling winger, and within a year proved strong enough to help propel lowly Doncaster into the first division. He has scored nine tries in ten games this season. Through his solicitor, Bloem said he was disappointed at the outcome. He had admitted his guilt from the outset.

The RFL disciplinary committee yesterday suspended Kelvin Skerrett, the Wigan prop, for three matches after he was sent off for fighting in the Regal Trophy quarter-final against St Helens. The ban, which Skerrett will appeal against, includes the semi-final against Castleford on Sunday.

After the shenanigans of the past two years, the RFL has threatened to invoke its by-laws should any member of the ten-strong Great Britain squad withdraw from the World Sevens in Australia from February 3-5. Martin Offiah, who pulled out last year because of an insurance wrangle, is again included.

The squad, a mixture of youth and experience, will be captained by Denis Betts. The Wigan second-row forward is among those who will miss England's opening John Smith's European championship match against Wales in Cardiff on February 1, as a result of a compromise arrangement between Ellery Hanley, the England coach, and Gary Hetherington, who is in charge of the sevens side.

Chris Joynt and Lee Jackson will also be in Sydney rather than at Cardiff. A try-scoring spree in the tournament 12 months ago helped John Bentley get a summer contract at Balmain. His experience will be invaluable in a side including Francis Cummins and Steve Prescott, both Great Britain Under-21 backs, and the uncapped back trio of Steve Blakeley, Tony Smith and Paul Sterling.

Because of the clash with the sevens, England's selection conundrum is almost as intriguing as that of Wales, now that players with Welsh grandparents are answering the call. Richard Eyres, of Leeds, is the fourth recruit, having been turned down initially by the RFL as he represented England against Wales in 1992. In changing its mind, the RFL cited the International Board decision that players capped by New Zealand can play for their country of birth, most notably Western Samoa, in the World Cup in October.

Hanley might well give way this time to the temptation of an international recall, at 33, when he chooses his squad. His 22nd try of the season in the 21-14 win by Leeds at Oldham on Wednesday was an exceptional one, and helped narrow the gap with Wigan, who are top of the championship, to a point.

GREAT BRITAIN SEVENS SQUAD: J Bentley (Halifax), D Betts (Wigan, captain), S Blakeley (Salford), F Cummins (Leeds), L Jackson (Sheffield), C Joynt (St Helens), M Offiah (Wigan), S Prescott (St Helens), A Smith (Castleford), P Sterling (Hull). Stand-by reserves: R Simpson (Bradford), N Summers (Bradford).

Legal eagles hand out some stick at broom-ball


Staying upright while wearing trainers becomes a problem in front of goal on the Broadgate Centre ice rink. Photograph: Des Jenson

The official line is that it all began in Tsarist Russia, turn of the 19th century St Petersburg, where the poor indulged in a simplistic form of ice hockey, using a pig's bladder as the puck, brooms for sticks, normal footwear because skates cost money. The game was played in the streets — which were frozen.

And it came to pass that this recreation was witnessed by a Canadian and a version of besom-bladder became broom-ball and was developed north of the 49th parallel and begat rules.

Until someone writes the definitive history, one can only guess at how it got to be the chosen winter deployment of the circular patch of land in the centre of Broadgate — a massive, prospering complex that occupies the site of the old Broad Street Station from which one used to be able to travel quietly to Richmond.


FREUD ON FRIDAY

Chosen it was, and on three evenings a week you can go along and witness broom-ball contests between 120 four-men teams striving for the Exco Challenge Cup. Among these are foursomes representing bankers and brokers, many public companies — like Lasmo, in which I have shares and show substantial losses — the police are in, and the Post Office; head hunters and Broadgate Services, who see to the maintenance and cleaning of the development. All slither across the ice in trainers, many fall down, get up, limp off, grin ruefully. Rain in the late afternoon exacerbates the slip factor. Rain on the night causes cancellation. In the bars and brasseries that overlook this rink, they watch and affect knowledge: opine that the ball is too big, the goals too small, the broom handles too long, and the contestants too clumsy; point out that it is altogether more pleasurable to sit in Corney and Barrow's Wine Bar drinking Olivier Leflaive's Premier Cru Montagny 1993.

One tends to agree, especially as all Corney and Barrow bars display stock market screens to keep patrons informed and, on a customer's birthday, the celebrant's age is deducted as percentage of the price of the first bottle of champagne. People of my generation could ruin them: next April 24 I shall go and claim a jeroboam of Roederer Brut at £31.90 ... though I would have trouble with the second bottle unless I bring a friend.

A game lasts ten minutes and the rules are straightforward: physical contact is an offence. Only the broom may propel the ball. Sticks must not be raised over shoulder height, high flicking is prohibited, violence discouraged.

Extreme violence, confronting the referee, and drunkenness incur a ban lasting the duration of the match, the whole evening, or the season ... depending on the weight of the punch, the quality of abusive verbiage aimed at the official, and the volume of alcoholic intake. On Tuesday evening I watched the play-offs in men's division nine: Simpsons, four legal eagles from Simpson Thacher and Bartlett, solicitors and commissioners for oaths, were best. Counter Attack, representing Post Office Counters Limited, began well, faded. One is tempted to write "It was a game of two halves", but as the teams do not change ends it would be a pointless remark.

Last year's winners were IBJ Moosemen, the team from the Independent Bank of Japan, captained by Matt Griffen.

"Unusual name for a Japanese," I suggested.

It transpired that he and his fellow players are American and Canadian.

Equipment, especially on a wettish day, is crucial: a bespoke broom-ball shoe is sold in Canada (made in Taiwan), has a one and a half inch sole, with blunt, black rubber spikes set around a score of suction holes, and enables the wearer to concentrate on hitting the ball rather than keeping his balance. Few players had these shoes and there was much falling over.

In truth, unless you have had a lot to drink, are a member of the company represented on the ice, or a close friend or relative of one who represents it, this is not a gripping spectacle ... but must be great fun to play.

On Thursdays the rink can be hired for corporate entertainment, equipment and referee are provided, the ruling on inebriation is relaxed. I would imagine that is more fun to watch, though involvement would tend to be less safe.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Australian to make London challenge

STEVE MONEGHETTI, the Commonwealth champion from Australia, is to run in the NutraSweet London Marathon on April 2 (David Powell writes). Moneghetti, who recaptured his form last year after three years without impressing at the distance, was ranked by one international panel of experts as the world's No 1 marathon runner of 1994. His win in Victoria, Canada, last summer completed his set of Commonwealth Games medals as he had won the bronze in 1986 and the silver in 1990.

Though his time was modest, 2hr 11min 49sec, because he was not pressed, he also won the Tokyo Marathon, in 2hr 8min 55sec. An *Athletics International* panel of experts from Europe put Moneghetti ahead of Dionicio Cerón, the Mexican who won London last year, in its annual rankings, although the US publication, *Track and Field News*, ranked the Australian in fifth position. His best time, of 2hr 8min 16sec, was set in 1990.

Aouita to return

ATHLETICS: Said Aouita of Morocco, the world's dominant distance runner of the 1980s, is making a comeback at the age of 35. The former Olympic and world champion will run in the 3,000 meters at the grand prix indoor meet in Hamilton, Canada, today.

It will be Aouita's first race since March 1992. In an interview in the French sports daily, *L'Equipe*, Aouita said he decided to return to competition after being dismissed national team director of Morocco in October. "I love competition and when I see athletes my age who are still around, I ask myself, 'Why not me?' " he said.

Bouillon fits the bill

MOTOR RACING: Jean-Christophe Bouillon, 25, the 1994 International Formula 3000 champion, has been appointed the official test driver to the Williams-Renault Formula One team and will be in action in Estoril, Portugal, next week. "We were immediately impressed by both his speed in the car and his informative feedback to both the Williams and Renault engineers," the team director, Frank Williams, said yesterday. "All our official test drivers have gone on to become grand prix drivers and we have every confidence that Jean-Christophe has a promising future."

Davison starts well

GOLF: Chris Davison collected a 68, four under par, to share the first-round lead in the South African Players Championship in Durban yesterday. The Newcastle-born player, 33, who has played all his professional career in South Africa, is level with Tony Johnstone, of Zimbabwe, Ron Whittaker, of the United States, and the home players, John Bland and Michael Green. His fellow Tynesider, Michael Archer, 29, is in a group of ten on 69.

Syed joins cup squad

TABLE TENNIS: Matthew Syed, the Oxford University student and England No 2, flew to Germany yesterday to reinforce the injury-hit England squad for the European Nations Cup in Karlsruhe which starts today. Syed, who has recovered from a shoulder injury, should lead England against Russia, France and Belgium. Denis Neale, the England captain, is expected to select Alan Cooke to play No 2 and Bradley Billington and Alex Perry for the doubles.

Wells increases lead

GLIDING: Martyn Wells, of Britain, consolidated his overall lead in the standard class in the world championships in Omarama, New Zealand, by taking third place in the race yesterday to move 84 points clear of the field. Although the race was won by Karl Striedieck, of the United States, British competitors took the next four places, all averaging better than 107kph. Alan Davis moved up to fifth position in the overall standings.

Jones in pole position

REAL TENNIS: Sally Jones, the world champion, and Sue Haswell start as favourites for the Oracle British women's doubles championship, which begins today at Canford School. One of the holders, Fiona Deuchar, from Australia, sister of the men's world championship challenger, Lachlan, has a new partner in Emma Wood, from Newcastle, and they are seeded at No 2. Wood and Haswell are recent recruits after distinguished careers in other racket sports.

Agassi courts good fortune for openers

By Our Sports Staff

ANDRE AGASSI, the No 2 seed, was left holding the aces after the draw for the men's singles at the Australian Open tennis tournament, which starts in Melbourne on Monday, offered him a relatively untroubled route to the third round.

The American former Wimbledon champion will not pit his talents against a player ranked higher than No 136 in the world until the third round of his inaugural appearance in Melbourne.

In avoiding the more precarious half of the draw, Agassi is first scheduled to meet two qualifiers. By contrast, the champion, Pete Sampras, of the United States, must pull out all the stops.

Sampras, who plays the world No 92, Gianluca Pozzi, of Italy, in the first round, is drawn in the same section as Jim Courier, Magnus Larsson, the Grand Slam Cup-winner, and the seventh seed, Michael Stich, from Germany, another former winner at Wimbledon.

Boris Becker will meet Patrick McEnroe in the first round and, if the seedings follow their course, will encounter his old adversary, Stefan Edberg, the Swede, in the quarter-finals.

Jeremy Bates carries Britain's best hope into the first round and a testing contest against another Swede, Henrik Holm, while Mark Petchey, spirits lifted by a 7-5 6-2 victory over the No 4 seed, Markus Zoecke, in the second round of the Indonesian Open in Jakarta, meets Radomir Vasek, of the Czech Republic.

While the men's draw was being made yesterday — the women's takes place today — the four British men in the qualifying competition were eliminated at the first hurdle.

Gary Henderson, the Yorkshire county player, fell 6-1, 6-2 to Mattias Hellstrom, of Sweden and Jamie Delgado, from Maidenhead, was overcome 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 by Brett Dickinson, from the US. Ross Matheson, of Glasgow, was defeated 6-2, 6-4 by Lars Burgsmuller, from Germany and the Scot, Miles MacLagan, completed the sorry catalogue, losing to Thierry Guardiola, from France.

The British No 1, Clare Wood, is seeded tenth in the women's qualifying competition and plays her opening match today against the Australian, Louise Field.

FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

Motherwell v Hibernian (7.45)

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm v Bideford.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cork v Galway (7.45); Athlone v Dundalk (8.0); Sligo v St Patrick's.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: 7-UP Trophy: Final: Sheffield v Thames Valley (at NEC Birmingham, 8.0).

RACING: Ascot (BBC 2, 12.55); Edinburgh (1.15); Southwell (AW, 1.20).

SNOOKER: Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (Birmingham).

SPEED SKATING: People's Phones British short-track championships (Guildford).

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

Late results on Wednesday

COCA-COLA CUP: Quarter-finals: Bolton 1 Norwich 0; Crystal Palace 4 Manchester City 0, Liverpool 1 Arsenal 0; Swindon 3 Millwall 1.

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Quarter-final: Northern section: Rochdale 2 Stockport 1.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic 1 Hearts 1. First division: Dunfermline 0 Raith 1; St Johnstone 2 Dundee 2. Third division: Ross County 2 Forfar 1.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Charlton 2 Crystal Palace 2; Brighton 1 Bristol Rovers 1; Oxford United 0 Queens Park Rangers 2; Southampton 3 Tottenham Hotspur 4; Ipswich 3 Watford 1; Norwich 1 Portsmouth 0. Second division: Bournemouth 3 Hereford United 1; Exeter 6 Bath 2; Swansea City 0 Cardiff City 0; Plymouth 0 Birmingham 2; Torquay 3 Cheltenham 1.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Everton 3 Manchester United 0; West Bromwich Albion 0 Nottingham Forest 0. Second division: Hull 3 Bradford 0; Preston 3 Sheffield Wednesday 1; Oldham 1 Blackpool 0. Postponed: Mansfield v Grimsby; York v Newcastle.

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Aston Villa 1 Leyton Orient 0. Replays: Middlesbrough 2 Coventry 6, Doncaster 0 Sunderland 2.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Third round, first leg: Ton Pentre 0 Cwmbran 1. Second leg: Inter-Cardiff 4 Ebbw Vale 1 (Inter-Cardiff win 6-2 on aggregate).

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Draw for semi-finals: Northern Section: Bury or Huddersfield v Rochdale; Wigan or Crewe v Carlisle. Southern Section: Birmingham v Swansea; Leyton Orient v Shrewsbury.

FA Matches to be played in week beginning January 30.

CAWOODS COUNTY ANTRIM SHIELD: Semi-finals: Glenavon 5 Portadown 3 (aet).

DIADORA LEAGUE: Carlsberg Trophy: Third round: Harlow 1 Leighton 3; Molesey 1 Walton and Hersham 0.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Soham 0 Haverhill 3.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester 107 (Waldron 28, Treavent 26, Branch 18) Sunderland 85 (Saunders 33, Noteage 17). Manchester 104 (Rickmers 28, Johnson 18, St Kitts 15) Derby 78 (Belka 28, Stenson 14).

EUROPEAN CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A: Semi-final series: Panathinaikos (Gr) 87 Pesaro (It) 72; Real Madrid (Sp) 74 Olimpia Ljubljana (Slov) 72.

GLIDING

OMARAMA: World championships: Day four (provisional): Open: 452km poly: (15 completions of 15): 1, B Gantenbrink (Nimbus4, Ger) 123.22kph, 1,000pts; 2, J Campa (ASW22BL, Pol) 122.54, 999; 3, R Lynskey (Nimbus4, NZ) 122.24, 994*; 4, M Giles (ASW22, Australia) 119.71, 943 (* penalty non-release). Overall Open: (four days): 1, U Schwenk (ASW22L, Ger) 3570pts, 2, R Schroedor (ASW22B, Ger) 3569; 3, Lynskey 3535. 4, Gantenbrink 3286. 15 metre: 427km quad (29 finishers of 31): 1, S Ghiorzo (Ventus2, It) 118.2kph, 1000pts; 2, G Lherm (DG800S, Fra) 117.58, 990; 3, T Delore (LS8A, NZ) 117.21, 984; 4, G Naves (Ventus2, Fra) 117.14, 983, 5, E Napoleon (Ventus2, Fra) 116.82, 980. Other British: 15m: 8, J Wills (LS6) 113.52, 926; 12, A Kay (LS8CW) 107.94, 836; 21, C Garton (LS8C) 102.82, 757. Overall 15m: 1, Ghiorzio (It) 3778pts. 2, Theisinger (Ger) 3686; 3, Delore (NZ) 3638, 4, Naves (Fr) 3616; 5, Napoleon (Fr) 3600. Wills (GB) 3587. Other British: 19, Garton 2933; 27, Kay 2110. Standard 360km quad: (44 completions of 44; *low release warning): 1, K Striedieck (ASW24, USA) 109.92kph, 1000pts; 2, B Spreckley (LS8, GB) 109.39, 991; 3, M Wells (LS8, GB) 108.8, 977; 4, S Jones (Discus BT, GB) 107.81, 962. Overall standard (four days): 1, Wells (GB) 3877pts; 2, M Kuttinen (Fin) 3693; 3, T Van Dyk (NZ) 3573; 4, R Schramme (Ger) 3556; 5, A Davis(GB), 3504; 6, Aboulin, Fra, 3481. Other British: 10, Spreckley 3424. 15, Jones 3340.

GOLF

DURBAN: Players's championship: Leading first-round scores (South Africa unless stated): 68: A Johnstone (Zim), J Bland, M Green, C Davison (GB), R Whittaker (US). 69: W Schutte, M McNulty (Zim), J Hawkes, J Kingston, R Stewart, M Archer (GB), J McHenry (GB), K Coody (US), S van Vuuren, D James. 70: M Guttman (US), A Park, B Pappas, D Robertson (US), D Bell (US), J Nieporte (US) J Ferenz (US), D Gilford (GB), J Hobday, N Henning, W Westner. 71: N Wallace (GB), M Mackenzie (GB), Dave Schreyer (US), I Leggatt (Can). 72: Michael Lee (GB), M Mouland (GB), H Clark (GB), A Pitts (US), R Freeman (US), S Medlin (US).

MOTOR RALLYING

DAKAR RALLY: Leading positions (after eleventh stage, 280 miles from Ayoun El'Atrous in Mauritania): Cars: 1, P Lafitte (Citroën, Fr) 51hr 15min 34sec; 2, J-P Fontenay (Mitsubishi, Fr) at 3hr 25min 11sec; 3, B Saby (Mitsubishi, Fr) at 3:40:43; 4, K Shinozuka (Mitsubishi, Japan) at 4:05:46, 5, T Salonen (Citroën, Fin) at 7:39.500. Motorbikes: 1, J Arcarons (Cagiva, Sp) 59hr 09min 09sec, 2, S Peterhansel (Yamaha, Fr) at 11min 28sec; 3, S Peterhansel (Yamaha, Fr) at 12:24; 4, E Onoli (Cagiva, It) at 27.24; 5, O Gallardo (Cagiva, Sp) at 1hr 30mn 31sec.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Doncaster 18 Bradford 36; Featherstone 14 Sheffield 24, Oldham 14 Leeds 21; Wakefield 15 St Helens 0. Postponed: Halifax v Wigan; Widnes v Workington. Second division: Keighley 14 London Broncos 25. Postponed: Highfield v Whitehaven; Swinton v Leigh.

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: South-West Division Schools 6 Australia Schools 6; East Wales Schools 9 New Zealand Schools 37, Royal Navy 5 British Fire Service 36.

CLUB MATCH: Abertillery 19 Barry Hill 9

TABLE TENNIS

SAARBRUCKEN: European League Super Division: Semi-final, second leg: Germany bt England 4-0 (J Rosskopf bt B Billington 21-12, 21-14; P Franz bt A Cooke 22-20 21-9; R Prause bt A Perry 21-18, 21-16. Doubles: Franz and T Wosik bt Cooke and Perry 21-15, 21-10).

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Men's exhibition tournament: First round: M Chang (US) bt P Cash (Aus) 6-2, 6-4, P Sampras (US) bt W Masur (Aus) 6-1, 4-6, 6-1, B Becker (Ger) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; S Edberg (Swe) bt M Stich (Ger) 6-2, 6-4. Semi-final: Chang bt Becker 4-6, 6-4, 7-6. Consolation pool: Stich bt Masur 6-3, 6-2.

ADELAIDE: Men's exhibition tournament: Group A: P Rafter (Aus) bt A Agassi (US) 6-3, 6-2. Group B: G Forget (Fr) bt T Martin (US) 6-4, 3-6, 7-6. Round two: Agassi bt J Courier (US) 6-4, 6-2; Forget bt Y Kafelnikov (Russia) 7-6, 6-1.

AUCKLAND: New Zealand Open: Singles: Second round: T Enqvist (Swe) bt C Ruud (Nor) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1, V Spadea (US) bt C-U Steeb (Ger) 6-3, 6-1, J Siemerink (Hol) bt A O'Brien (US) 7-5, 6-3; B Steven (NZ) bt S Down (NZ) 6-3, 6-4.

HOBART: Tasmanian International Women's Open: Singles: Quarter-finals: J Wiesner (Austria) bt M Babel (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; L Meskhi (Geo) bt E Likhovtseva (Kazi 6-2, 6-7, 8-4, Y Kamo (Japan) bt T Whitinger-Jones (US) 6-2, 1-6, 6-3, L Fang (China) bt J Wolanchik (US) 7-5, 6-0.

SYDNEY: New South Wales Open: Men: Quarter-finals (Australia unless stated): R Furlan (It) bt J Morgan 6-4, 7-6, P McEnroe (US) bt (4) R Krajicek (Holl) 7-5, 6-1, A Gaudenzi (It) bt M Tebbutt 6-4 6-4, R Fromberg bt M Woodforde 7-6, 6-3. Women: Second round: L Richterova (Cz) bt B Ridner (Ger) 6-3, 6-3; L Davenport (US) bt M Hingis (Switz) 6-1, 3-6, 6-3. Quarter-finals: M Fernandez (US) bt N Bradtke 6-2, 4-6, 7-5.

JAKARTA: Indonesian Men's Open: Singles: Second round: R Agenor (Haiti) S Pescosolido (It) 6-1, 6-3, M Petchey (GB) bt M Zoecke (Ger) 7-5, 6-2; G Raoux (Fr) bt Xavier Daufresne, Belgium, 6-1, 6-4. R Vasek (Cz) bt G Solves (Fr) 6-1, 7-6. Doubles: Second round, R Agenor and S Matsuoka (Japan) S Kruger (SA) and Petchey 6-4, 6-4.

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Wincanton

Going: good

1.10 (2m hdle) 1, Montcock (T Dascombe, 7-1); 2, Kadanski (5-1 jf-fav); 3, Jurz (20-1); 4, Foole Errand (10-1). Jump Start 5-1 jf-fav. 17 ran. NR: Chapel Of Barras. Nk, 10l. R Hodges. Tote: £5.70: £1.70, £1.60, £7.60. £1.40 DF. £18.00 Tno. £184.80. CSF: £40.87. Tricast: £616.64.

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, Conquering Leader (M A Fitzgerald, 9-4 fav); 2, Bell One (11-2); 3, Hawaiian Sam (50-1) 20 ran. NR: Marconda. 2¼l, 20l. N Henderson. Tote: £4.50; £2.40, £2.60, £15.10. DF: £11.80. CSF: £15.81.

2.10 (2m 5f ch) 1, Lusty Light (W Marston, 5-1), 2, Bradbury Star (4-5 fav), 3, Bang On Target (100-1). 5 ran. Dist, 8l. Mrs J Pitman. Tote: £8.20; £1.60, £1.20. DF: £3.00. CSF: £7.73.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Nordic Crown (R Dunwoody, 1-2 fav); 2, Mendip Son (12-1); 3, Il Bambino (25-1). 19 ran. 2½l, 14l. M Pipe. Tote £1.60; £1.30, £4.20, £10.10. DF: £19.90. CSF £10.31.

3.10 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Mr Flanagan (G Bradley, 3-1 fav), 2, Sunley Bay (6-1); 3, Celtic Bank (11-2). 15 ran. Sh hd, 2l. C Brooks. Tote: £3.60; £1.40, £2.70, £2.90. DF: £16.70. Trio: £29.70. CSF: £25.37. Tricast: £113.96.

3.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Oats N Barley (S Burrough, 25-1); 2, Carlingford Lights (20-1); 3, Ragtime Boy (16-1); 4, Kindle's Delight (13-2) Holy Zeal 9-4 fav (pu). 19 ran. NR: Prince Tesson, South Bar. 2½l, 2l. P Radford. Tote: £36.30; £8.10, £5.30, £3.30, £2.00. DF: £1,089.30. Tno, not won. CSF: £443.86. Tricast: £7,239.72.

4.10 (2m hdle) 1, Lightning Lad (G McCourt, 6-1); 2, Martins Dream (25-1); 3, Bold Dolphin (16-1). Cheryl's Lad 4-6 fav (f) 19 ran. NR: Do Righley. 2½l, 10l. J King. Tote: £8.00; £3.10, £4.70, £4.80. DF: £132.70. CSF: £147.24.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £14,670.42 carried forward to Ascot today).

Placepot: £88.00. Quadpot: £19.10.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

1.00 (5f) 1, Little Saboteur (A Clark, 5-1); 2, Press The Bell (5-2 fav), 3, Samsson Agonistes (11-2). 8 ran. Sh hd, 1¼l. P Makin. Tote: £4.50, £2.00, £1.40, £1.10. DF: £4.00. CSF: £16.67.

1.30 (7f) 1, Spencer's Revenge (J Weaver, 8-13 fav); 2, Respectable Jones (8-1); 3, Joint Effort (14-1) 12 ran. NR: Breckland Bl, Mr Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £1.20; £1.10, £1.10, £3.20. DF: £3.10 CSF: £7.68.

2.00 (1m) 1, Biya (T Williams, 6-4 fav), 2, Pleasant Memories (9-2); 3, Portelet (14-1) 12 ran. 2l, hd M Johnston. Tote: £3.10, £1.60, £1.80, £5.20. DF: £9.20 CSF: £14.08

2.30 (1m 2f) 1, Scottish Park (J Williams, 5-1); 2, Night Edition (4-1), 3, Lexus (8-2) Give In 11-4 fav 10 ran. Nk, ¾l. R Emery. Tote: £5.60; £2.30, £2.60, £1.40. DF: £29.90. Tno: £27.20. CSF: £26.09 Tricast: £92.15.

3.00 (6f) 1, Stoppes Brow (L Suthern, 10-11 fav), 2, Hannah's Usher (9-4), 3, Pleasure Beach (6-1). 5 ran. Sh hd, 2l. G L Moore. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £1.60 CSF £3.53

3.30 (1m 5f) 1, Royal Circus (B Doyle, 11-1); 2, Scalp 'em (7-2); 3, Head Turner (13-2) Wottashambles 7-4 fav. 9 ran. 2½l, 1¾l. J O'Shea. Tote: £12.10, £3.10, £1.10, £1.50 DF: £28.00. Tno: £36.60 CSF: £48.65. Tricast: £252.29.

4.00 (1m 2f) 1, Zuno Noelyn (G Carter, 6-1), 2, Kashi Homm (11-10 fav); 3, Rockstone (8-1) 9 ran. 2l, 1¼l. R Akehurst. Tote: £6.10; £1.80, £1.10, £2.20. DF: £4.60. Tno: £22.20. CSF: £13.72. Tricast: £41.02.

Placepot: £25.40. Quadpot: £8.50 (0.5 winning tickets. Pool of £5.80 carried forward to Ascot today).

Yesterday's meeting at Wetherby was called off because of frost.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Igls	65	120	good	powder	good	cloud	2	12/1
Wonderful skiing in Igls, Tulfes and Mutters								
Schladming	90	130	good	powder	good	cloud	0	12/1
More fresh snow, excellent powder skiing								
St Anton	120	290	powder	powder	good	snow	7	12/1
Still snowing; access roads blocked								
FRANCE								
Chamonix	60	355	powder	powder	good	snow	5	12/1
Outlook excellent when lifts and runs re-open								
Courchevel	120	170	good	heavy	good	snow	11	12/1
More than 100cm of new snow; avalanche risk still high								
Flaine	160	320	powder	powder	good	snow	1	12/1
Massive avalanche risk as snow continues to fall								
La Plagne	110	250	good	varied	good	snow	9	12/1
Limited skiing due to continued snowfalls								
Megeve	80	160	good	powder	good	snow	6	12/1
Fantastic powder skiing, but visibility poor								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	110	140	good	powder	good	snow	5	12/1
Snowfall and wind still causing problems								
C Montana	170	240	powder	powder	good	snow	7	12/1
Snow, snow and more snow; avalanche danger extreme								
Klosters	120	190	powder	powder	good	snow	5	12/1
Skiing still restricted by snowfalls, outlook excellent								
St Moritz	70	120	good	powder	good	snow	5	12/1
Excellent skiing on open runs, still snowing								
Verbier	155	250	powder	powder	good	snow	9	12/1
Deep powder everywhere, avalanche danger extreme								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes. U - upper, art - artificial.

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مكتبة من الإعلان

Former champion reacting positively to girlfriend's paralysis

Irreversible turn in life of O'Reilly

Mel Webb relates how a senior sportsman has come to terms with the sporting accident that changed him for good



O'Reilly, right, in training with Gooch, holder of the European and British titles that O'Reilly covets. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

The year of 1994 actually started for Wilf O'Reilly on December 22, 1993. Other folk were thinking of *sleigh bells and holly yet*, by the end of that fateful day, O'Reilly's life beyond the narrow sporting world of short-track speed skating that he had inhabited with distinction for a decade or more had been smashed into a thousand fragments. *It was the day that was* to change him, and his life, forever.

O'Reilly was in France, training with his girlfriend, Monique Veldzeboer, an Olympic gold, silver and bronze medal-winner, when *Monique momentarily* lost control and fell.

The expanse of ice that is so huge when adorned by such as Torvill and Dean and yet so small and claustrophobic when it becomes the arena for short-track, was suddenly nowhere near big enough for Monique, who crashed with sickening force head first into *the barriers. Thirteen months* on she is paralysed from the chest down, and will be in a wheelchair for the rest of her days.

O'Reilly, Olympic champion when short-track was a demonstration sport in 1988, had until the accident been a driven man, single-minded in his pursuit of excellence in one of the most adrenalin-inducing disciplines in world sport. Today he goes into the British short-track championships at Guildford expecting just as much, yet, given the agony of the last year, paradoxically more at peace with himself *than he has ever been.*

"I think most athletes by their nature are very selfish," O'Reilly said. "When things are not going quite right for them in their sport, they feel their life is falling apart, when actually there are a million *and one things that are far* more important — things you never realise until you're presented with them.

"Before Monique's accident I had been very, very single-minded, and to a degree I still am, but nowadays I am a *much more rounded individ*ual. Nowadays I can go to the pub and have a beer with my friends and feel comfortable with it. I am still as focused as I was before, while realising that skating's not the be-all and end-all of everything — *that's been the key issue for* me."

O'Reilly, 30, is approaching the veteran stage of a career that has seen him win one world championship, three European titles and umpteen honours at domestic level, but he is not letting the unhappiness of 1994, on as well as off *the ice, to divert him from his* goals.

Veldzeboer's accident happened only six weeks before the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, and O'Reilly did not go near an ice rink for a fortnight. "It did pass through *my mind in that time that* I might give up, but in the end I asked myself if the accident had happened in a motor accident, would I get in a car again?" he said. "The answer, probably, was 'yes', and that decided it."

Those two weeks off the ice had a telling effect on his performance in Norway. He failed to win the medal *that* had been widely predicted for him, that honour instead going to Nicky Gooch, his young England team-mate, who won a bronze in the 500 metres. O'Reilly also broke a blade on one of his skates and fell, and was denied a change of skate by the referee.

Given the circumstances, it was a calamitous blow to the Birmingham-born son of an Irish mother and a West *Indian father, but this was* already a new Wilf O'Reilly. "With hindsight I realised that *the reason I clashed blades* with the other person was that I was not quite as sharp as I might otherwise have been," he said.

"Normally I should have been half a metre up on him, and then it wouldn't have happened. It was just circumstances. It wasn't the end of the world."

There are still targets, though, even for the more relaxed man he says he has become. He is aiming for podium positions in the European championships *that start* in Austria next week and then the world championships in Norway in March. "I've skated faster than ever this year, broken a British record and got very close to a world record," he said. "I've done it *before, and I think I can do it* again."

Long term, he is resolved to be in Japan for the Winter Olympics in 1998. "People keep asking me why I'm wearing training kit with Japan on it," he said. "I tell them *I'm wearing it because I'll be* there. I tell you, I'll be there."

But first comes the challenge of this weekend, when he will be trying to wrest the title back from Gooch, the British and European champion, and his junior by eight years. "Age *doesn't matter*," he said. "Look at Linford Christie. If he can do it at his age, so can I. Compared with him, I'm just a lad."

Besides which, he has an unspoken promise to keep as he glides out onto a glistening *white stage that will be* forever denied a brave young Dutch woman who is at once his motivation and his inspiration.



O'Reilly picks himself up after crashing into a barrier, ready to skate another day

Tickling tales of Araby

The Lion in the Sand. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

It must have been a labour of love for Gerald Butt to compile these recollections by Britons working and travelling in the Middle East during the 1920s and 1930s. There is no hard labour involved in *listening to them.* Hardly any do not have a laugh in their tail. There is the man who was almost converted to Christianity when a missionary demonstrated the art of climbing barefoot up a palm tree. There is the woman who refused to use the desert's natural loo — undulations in the dunes. There is the delayed sea voyage: some Arab boys got into the chartroom and tore up all the maps. Finally, a charming vignette: a Brit squatting under the city walls of Kuwait, exchanging Koranic quotations with a little Arab lad.

Harrison's Bigwigs. *Radio 3, 10.45pm.*

Because it was recorded so close to the date of transmission, I have not been able to hear Carey Harrison's dramatised portrait of Isaac Newton in love. But I have long been a propagandist for Harrison's radio work and, on the basis of what I have been able to glean about *tonight's feature, I would suggest you could do much worse than tune* in. Like most of Harrison's radio writing, poetic licence is employed. I fully expect it to be playful licence, hence the umbrella title of "fantastical biography" under which tonight's portrait, and Harrison's two succeeding ones about Christopher Wren and Nell Gwyn, are sheltering.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Steve Wright in the Morning 9.00 Simon Mayo; incl Mark Kermode's weekend film and video review and Dead or Alive 12.00 Lisa l'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45 Newsbeat 2.00pm Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection 10.00 John Peel: a session from London trio Black Dog 1.00am The 1FM Rap Show with Westwood

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Martin Kelner with the Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Maestro: Musical quiz 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 8.45 *Treasure Island*, Part 1 9.00 Listen to the Band: the William Davis Construction Group band under Keith Wilkinson 10.00 Martin Kelner with the Radio 2 Arts Programme 12.05am Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes: featuring Keith Smith's Hefty Jazz 1.00 Jon Briggs with Night Ride

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine with Diana Madill, incl at 9.40 Video Review; 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 Chain Reaction 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Liz Barclay Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe 4.00 John Inverdale: Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 the day's sport in full 7.35 Alan Green's Sportstalk 9.05 Off Plate: Sandy Warr looks at all aspects of skiing 9.35 Now the Good News... 10.05 Stop Press, with John Diamond 10.35 Financial Week 11.00 *Night Extra, including at 11.45 The* Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 News 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 *Europe Today* 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: *Oscar and Lucinda* 7.30 Law 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Review 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Global Concerns 9.30 On the Move 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Faith 10.30 World Ranking 11.00 News 11.15 BBC English 11.45 *Mittagsmagazin* 12.00 News 12.10pm Faith 12.15 Law 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf: *Oscar and Lucinda* 2.45 Global Concerns 3.00 News 3.15 Review 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business 5.15 BBC English 6.00 News 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 Law 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 News 10.05 People and Politics 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.30 Multitrack: Alternative 12.00 News 12.15am Poets 12.30 From the Weeklies 12.45 Learning World 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Worldbrief 1.45 Jazz 2.00 News 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 News 3.15 Sports 3.30 Vintage Chart Show 4.00 News

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 *Susannah Simons* 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto: Liszt (Piano Concerto No 1) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 Classic Verdict 8.00 Evening Concert: Dvořák (Overture, In Nature's Realm); Poulenc (Piano concerto); Ibert (Suite symphonique). *Dvořák (Symphony No 2) 10.00 Michael* Mappin 1.00am Robert Booth

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 *Paul Coyle* 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 **On Air**, with Andrew McGregor; 7.05 Purcell (Fantasia a 9); 7.07 Nielsen: (Overture: Helios); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 in F); Charlie Barber (Kantilan Kerangan); Tchaikovsky (Valse-scherzo, Op 34); Strauss (Horn Concerto No 1 in E flat); Hindemith (Morgenmusik, Plöner Musiktag)
9.00 **Composer of the Week**: *Hindemith. Clarinet Concerto* (Louis Cahuzac, clarinet); Der Schwanendreher; Arthur Fiedler's Sinfonia.
10.00 **Musical Encounters**:- Beethoven (Cello Sonata in C, Op 102 No 1); Purcell (Bonduca, excerpts); Salonen (Floof); Liszt (Consolations Nos 5 and 6); 10.50 *Artist of the Week*: Esa-Pekka Salonen, conductor. Mozart (Piano Concerto No 27 in B flat); 11.24 Beethoven (Cello Sonata in D, Op 102 No 2); Hindemith (Tafelmusik, Plöner Musiktag)
12.00 **Voices**: *Iain Burnside* introduces songs by Samuel Barber, Ned Rorem and Charles Griffes (r)
1.00pm **BBC Singers**, live from St Giles Church, Cripplegate, London. Simon Joly conducts *the singers and members of* the New London Orchestra in some of Hindemith's rarest works — his choral music
2.10 **Youth Orchestras of the World**: Royal College of Music Symphony Orchestra. Stockhausen (Gruppen); James Wood (Orelon)
3.15 **After Corelli**: Chamber music by Corelli and followers.

Corelli (*Trio Sonata in D, Op 3 No 2*); Corelli/Geminiani (Sonata in A, Op 5 No 9); Valentini (*Trio Sonata in E flat, Op 5 No 7*); Veracini (Sonata in B_b, Gp 2 No 1); Albioni (Trio Sonata in B flat, Op 1 No 12) (r)
4.10 **BBC Symphony Orchestra**: Hindemith (Mahnung an die Jugend, Plöner Musiktag)
4.30 **The Sailor's Piano**: Janet Topp Fargion presents more music for the accordion
5.00 **The Music Machine**: *The* first pop song
5.15 **In Tune**: Hindemith's music for the Evening Concert (Plöner Musiktag) played the BBC Symphony Orchestra
7.30 **BBC Symphony Orchestra** under Andrew Davis. Hindemith (Piece for mechanical piano: Rex Lawson, pianola; Konzertmusik for piano, brass and two harps: Peter Donohoe, piano); 8.00 Reminiscences of Hindemith: contributions from Benny Goodman, Lukas Foss and *others; 8.20 Das Nusch-*Nuschi, first UK performance
9.35 **A Splendid Science Called Musick**: Last of the readings from the writings of Roger North
9.50 **Delmé Quartet**: Daniel Jones (*String Quartet No 8*); Elgar (String Quartet in E minor, Op 83) (r)
10.45 **Friday Feature: Harrison's Bigwigs**: See Choice
11.30-12.30am **Midnight Oil**: Sarah Walker with early works for string quartet by three American icons, La Monte Young, Morton Feldman and Alvin Lucier

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day, with John Barton, Archdeacon of Aston 6.30 Today Incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News 9.05 Desert Island Discs**: The castaway is the actress Patricia Hodge (r)
9.45 **Radio World**: Simon Fanshawe scans the airwaves of other countries
10.00 **News; The Lion in the Sand** (FM only): See Choice
10.00 **An Act of Worship** (LW only)
10.15 **The Pilgrim's Progress** (LW only), by John Bunyan (r)
10.30 **Woman's Hour**: Crime writers Val McDermid and Cath Staincliffe tell Ruth Pitt why Manchester's mean streets are the perfect setting for their private eyes
11.30 **The Natural History Programme**, presented by Joanna Pinnock
12.00 **News; You and Yours**
12.25pm **The Food Programme**: Derek Cooper finds out how to buy the best-tasting spices and hears the arguments for and against irradiating them 12.55 Weather
1.00 *The World at One*
1.40 **The Archers** 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Classic Serial: The Diary of Samuel Pepys**. Dramatised by Neville Smith (2/5) (r)
3.00 **News; Anderson Country**
4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope**: Louisa Buck sees an exhibition of war photography by women
4.45 **Short Story: Constant Repetition**. A topical story for Friday 13 by Michael Carson, read by Patricia Hayes
5.00 **PM**, with Chris Lowe and Hugh Sykes 5.50 Shipping
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **Going Places**: David Stafford with ideas for making the most of the weekend
7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**
7.20 **Pick of the Week**: with Christopher Searle
8.05 **Any Questions?** *The panel* of Alistair Campbell, press officer to Tony Blair; *Times* columnist and broadcaster Janet Daley; Rana Kabbani, writer; and John Maples, deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, tackle the issues raised in Poole, Dorset. The chairman is Jonathan Dimbleby
8.50 **Ninety Not Out**: Ned Sherrin in conversation with R.E.S. Wyatt, at 94 the oldest living Test cricketer
9.15 **Letter from America**, by Alistair Cooke
9.30 **Kaleidoscope Feature**. *The* British film director Mike Figgis talks to Paul Allen (r)
9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: The Phantom of the Opera**. Jack Klaff reads the last episode of Gaston Leroux's novel
11.00 **Week Ending**: A satirical *review of the week's* news
11.25 **Fourth Column** Alistair Beaton and guests take another sideways look at life
11.45 **Today in Parliament**
12.00-12.43am **News** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Linda Galloway

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Concerned Conner has weather eye open

WITH the four-month America's Cup yachting trials scheduled to get under way in damp and windy conditions off San Diego yesterday, Dennis Conner, whose four victories make him the most experienced skipper by far, was uneasy at the level of preparation *for his challenge with Stars & Stripes* (Barry Pickthall writes).

Tom Whidden, Conner's right-hand man, said: "We don't feel as well organised as we would like to be and the weather hasn't helped, but we probably have the best crew I have ever sailed with in six Cup campaigns."

Conner's latest boat was due to meet up with Bill Koch's all-woman crew on *America*³ but, as the Pacific surf pounded the harbour entrance, the accepted frailty of these 75ft day racers in anything more than 20 knots of wind made racing *on the opening day uncertain.*

The French have already ended up the worse for wear when testing the conditions outside their Mission Bay *headquarters on* Wednesday. Their skipper, Marc Pajot, and three other crew members came close to being capsized by the towering seas. Two of *their number were thrown* overboard and one dislocated his shoulder. Luckily, *oneAustralia's* inflatable tender was close by, and the crew was picked up safely.

The seven-strong challenger group competing for the Louis Vuitton Cup starts its trials tomorrow with a confident Chris Dickson, the skipper of *TAG Heuer Challenge*, aiming to steer clear of the politics that surround the event.

Austrian army digs in to rescue ski racing season

The Alps have too much snow while the Spanish are desperately short.

David Powell reports

Three hundred soldiers *from the Austrian army* were put to work yesterday to help dig the Alpine ski racing season out of trouble. Faced with yet another World Cup postponement, and with concern mounting over prospects for the world championships in Spain, no effort was spared to make sure that the first of four races planned for *Kitzbühel over the next four* days goes ahead.

While Gianfranco Kasper, the secretary of the International Ski Federation (FIS), was expressing his concern at the lack of snow in Sierra Nevada, where the world championships are due to begin on January 30, soldiers with shovels were out in force to tackle a different problem here — one of too much snow. They succeeded in clearing the lower section of the course and, provided Kitzbühel is spared another heavy snowfall before lunchtime today, a shortened downhill will be *staged this afternoon while*, simultaneously, work continues to clear the top part so that the Hahnenkamm race, the toughest downhill on the circuit, can go ahead tomorrow.

The race today has been made into a sprint downhill, which has happened only twice before. Instead of skiing the full 3,200 metres of the Hahnenkamm course, the two most treacherous sections, the Mausefalle and the Steilhang, will be missing and the competitors will begin at Alte Schneise, covering a distance of 1,950 metres. But they will do it twice, two hours apart, and positions will be calculated on aggregate times.

The mild December weather put the World Cup season behind schedule, only for a blizzard to prevent Flachau from staging its men's super-giant slalom on Tuesday. The *race has been added to the* Kitzbühel programme and, given that the sprint today is *the downhill* scheduled originally for St Anton, Kitzbühel's two-day programme has been extended to four days. A slalom is scheduled for Sunday and the super-giant slalom for Monday.

Only three of the six speed *races due to have* been staged by now have been held, though the technical events — the giant slalom and slalom — are up to date. The unbalanced programme and the brilliant form of Alberto Tomba have combined to give *the Italian a huge lead in the* overall standings. Tomba, the sport's principal attraction, has never won the overall title because he refuses to ski the speed events. Will this be the season when he succeeds despite declining to compete for points in two of the four disciplines? If nobody scores highly from the three speed races here, and Tomba wins his sixth slalom in succession in the only technical run, it will begin to look probable.



Kasper: "a little worried"

Tomba leads by 400 points from Jure Kosir, of Slovenia. His most likely challengers, Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Norway's defending champion, and Marc Girardelli, from Luxembourg, the downhill champion, are respectively 426 and 528 points behind.

Sierra Nevada's need for snow has become desperate. *Reports that the FIS was* considering switching to another resort were discounted by Kasper yesterday, but he did suggest that the most likely solution if temperatures remain above freezing would be to postpone the championships until next year.

"One possibility would be to hold them next year as we have no world championships and no Olympic Games, the *only year in ten we have* nothing special on," Kasper said. "This is the most likely answer because of all that Spain has done to prepare for the world championships. Normally it takes five or six years to prepare. I do not believe any resort in the world could do it in five minutes.

"It is true that we are worried a little, but we are quite confident that we will have the world championships according to schedule." Jerónimo Paez, secretary of the Sierra Nevada organising committee, said the present *situation* was "a nightmare".

Scattered sightings of a bright, brief star



Lynne Truss

For anyone who thinks that arts documentaries are gimmicky and over-produced, last night's **Remembering Jacqueline du Pré** (Channel 4) was an instructive contrast, since it showed no signs of being produced at all. A whole hour, it was, *composed of heart-stopping* archive footage — du Pré's energetic concert performances, interspersed with lively larking at the piano — *but the overall effect of the* programme curiously resembled a home movie session, in which the reels are shown randomly, without *theme or principle.*

"Time for another?"

"Ooh, have you still got that Trout Quintet?"

"I believe I *do have it here*, somewhere, yes, although it's only black and white. Fancy an Ovaltine? It's no bother."

"I shouldn't, really. Not after the Noilly Prat and the cheese footballs."

"All right, then. Ahem. Quiet, please."

The usual talking heads were notable for their absence. The *usual* apparatus of dates and facts was, perhaps, knocked over in the rush to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of du Pré's birth. Instead, an unnamed narrator (presumably Christopher Nupen, the film's producer) said some very nice things about du Pré's great talent, *as though she was everybody's* best friend — which was touching, though not very realistic. "She touched our hearts in ways we will *not forget*," he said; "it was a *gift* with endless possibilities, and there is *no explaining it*." No explaining it? Oh well, thread up *another film, then. Just tell us at* the end which pieces she was playing, we ask nothing more.

Cameras loved Jacqueline du Pré — the wide, sudden smile, thick auburn hair, the thrilling crescendo jumps in her seat: what a star this woman was. In a sleeveless cotton frock and 1960s chain belt, skipping across a busy London street with her cello case (carried lightly by the handle), she evoked a time of prodigious Georgy Girls that surely never existed. Was her playing "excessively emotional", *as somebody* put it? For all her artistry, cameras ignored her fingers, concentrating on that pale, expressive face, the *wonderment on it. But "excessive* emotion" suggests tantrums or hysteria, whereas what came through her playing was purely *and straightforwardly love.*

Was **Bad Boys** (BBC 1) a pilot for a series, or what? It was billed as a special one-off comedy drama by Ian Pattison (of *Rab C. Nesbitt* fame), but it had all the characteristics of a first episode — it was written to formula, it featured a wacky duo of unlikely buddies, and it ended without properly *finishing.* Two former lags — one Scottish (Freddie Boardley), one cockney (Karl Howman) — are thrown into cahoots, when each is *threatened* by a comic villain heavier (but not funnier) than himself. Together they overcome a few nasty tricks, and are reluctantly pledged to help each other in the future. Which must mean a series, mustn't it?

(By the bye, I do wonder sometimes why pilots are broadcast, when public reaction and critical panning evidently play no *part in the decision to commission.* HTV's *Wycliffe* had a shockingly weak pilot; it ended up as a series. Carlton brushed aside all pleas *and quibbles, and went ahead with Brighton Belles.*)

Unfortunately, *Bad Boys* sacrificed its claims to originality by *forefronting the stock wide-boy* character — nicely turning the tables on centuries of stock Scots, perhaps, but at too high a price. *Looking back on it, it's Karl* Howman (from *Brushstrokes* and *Mulberry*) who stole the show, while the Scottish milieu, of upwardly mobile villains submitting to dainty golf club etiquette, became curiously incidental. The funniest scene concerned Howman, on his own; talking terms with an entire gang of well-armed Glaswegian hoods on a walkway under a bridge. As they approached in silhouette, you saw Howman unconcernedly eating a packet of crisps. In the ensuing conversation, he staunchly held his own, despite the presence of meat cleavers, but when the hoods departed, he simply bent double, keening with fear. *It was brilliantly done.*

Of course, had Howman *been hacked to bits, the* consolations would have been, a) he'd finished his crisps, b) there was no official mention of a *series, and c) the whole thing may* have been recorded by police cameras. In last night's **Metropolis** (BBC 2), an amiable prison governor called Dr David Wilson asked whether cameras in city centres intruded on people's human rights, despite their obvious usefulness in nailing criminals. Prison systems have toyed with the idea of continuous surveillance (Bentham's famous Panopticon idea), but have decided against it on humanitarian grounds. (Dr Wilson made his programme in advance of recent events.)

This *Metropolis* was a cool, rational piece. The words "Big Brother" were mentioned, but otherwise Dr Wilson mostly avoided alarmist clichés. In Newcastle, police tapes have been used in 400 prosecution cases; on seeing them, *350 people promptly confessed.* Dr Wilson watched police footage of car thefts and kickings, visibly shocked by it, but neglected to ask *the obvious questions. How long* are tapes kept? Don't they get in the way, as they do at home? Are the uneventful ones kept, too, or is *NYPD Blue* recorded over the top?

"Right, sarge. How about Camera 13 on October 12th?"

"How does it go?"

"It says here, *Six hours of lamp post, shop-front and moonlight.*"

"Lovely. Fancy an Ovaltine?"

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (66634)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (18583936)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (9894232)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1709752) ***10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick*** (s) (85088226)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7252400) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (3258665) **12.55 Regional News and weather** (78713329)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (99394)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (91460058) **1.50 Timekeepers.** Quiz show (s) (91464874)

2.15 Holiday. Reports from a Colorado ski resort that provides facilities for disabled skiers, St Lucia, Benidorm and a painting course in France (r). (Ceefax) (s) (301618) **2.45 The Flying Doctors.** *Australian medical drama series (r). (Ceefax) (s)* (5819481)

3.30 Cartoon (5890416) **3.45 Bliss** (s) (5515771) **4.00 Jackanory.** Christopher Guard with part five of *Stevenson's Treasure Island* (6518329) **4.10 Rugrats** (s) (2352023) **4.25 The Borrowers** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4481226)

4.50 Newsround Extra. Julie Etchingham reports on *South Africa's controversial elephant culling policy* (7664400) **5.05 Grange Hill.** Comprehensive school drama serial. (Ceefax) (s) (3378049)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (955690)

6.00 Six O'Clock News *(Ceefax) and weather* (481)

6.30 Regional news magazines (961)

7.00 Wipeout. Game show presented by Paul Daniels. (Ceefax) (s) (3868)

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Includes a report from Howard Stableford in northern Chile on the attempt to match the DNA from 8,000-year-old mummies with DNA fingerprints of people today. (Ceefax) (s) (145)

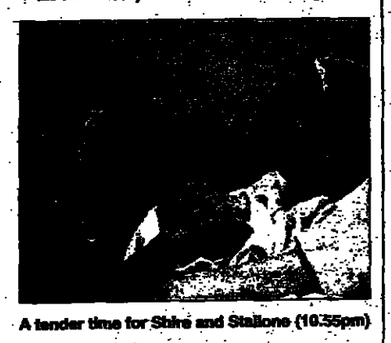
8.00 Only Fools and Horses. More comedy from the wheeler-dealer Trotter brothers. Starring David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst (r). (Ceefax) (5416)

8.30 Health and Efficiency. Comedy series set in a hospital. (Ceefax) (s) (1023)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8771)

9.30 999. Michael Buerk introduces another selection of reconstructions from the casebooks of Britain's emergency services. (Ceefax) (4802282)

10.25 Peter Cook: The Best of Not Only But Also. A tribute to the comic genius who died this week (126917). **Wales:** All Our Lives 10.55 Peter Cook 11.25 Film: Rocky II 1.15-2.50 Film: Flaming Star



A tender time for Shire and Stallone (10.55pm)

10.55 FILM: Rocky II (1979) starring Sylvester Stallone and Talia Shire. Much the same as the 1976 Oscar-winning original but with the hero now married and a *father. Directed by Sylvester Stallone* (40386795)

12.50am FILM: Flaming Star (1960) starring Elvis Presley and Barbara Eden. Drama, plus a few songs, about a young half-breed Indian who must choose sides when his mother's tribe go on the warpath. Directed by Don Siegel (2339467)

2.20 Weather (7082554)

BBC2

7.00 Dilly the Dinosaur (r) (4738955) **7.05 Bump** (r) (4737228) **7.10 Galaxy Goof-Ups** (r) (8087481) **7.35 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1217481)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (8115955)

8.15 The Record (7630145) **8.35 Consuming Passions.** Pasta (7555697) **8.40 The Time Of Your Life.** Exploits of the more mature (4342961)

9.00 The Last Great Cattle Drive (r) (42077) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (8918495)

10.25 FILM: For Whom the Bell Tolls (1943) starring Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman. Spanish Civil War drama based on the novel by Ernest Hemingway. Directed by Sam Wood (72721684)

12.30 Working Lunch (30058) **1.00 Postman Pat** (r) (13108416) **1.15 The Infinite Voyage: The Great Dinosaur Hunt** (6137868)

2.10 Sport on Friday. Includes **Racing from Ascot:** live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05 and 3.35 races (s). Includes **News** and weather at **2.55** (895023)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (4741899)

4.00 Today's the Day. *Recent history quiz* (874)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Cuisine magazine (918)

5.00 Oprah. A discussion on family phobias (7409226)

5.45 Decisions. Dr David Cook talks to Victoria Scott about her outburst against her father, the Minister for Disabled People (217077)

6.00 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons (r). (Ceefax) (966394) **6.25 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased).** Vintage private detective series (861619)

7.15 The Q-Zone. Zoe Ball talks to Elvis Costello at his home in Dublin (s) (356313)

7.30 Sounds of the Sixties (r) (s) (787)



Dorset gamekeeper Dawn Warr (8.00pm)

8.00 [redacted] Countrywomen: The Keeper's Dawn (Ceefax) (s)(3058)

8.30 [redacted] Geoff Hamilton's Cottage Gardens. (Ceefax) (9665)

9.00 Bottom. Comedy series. (Ceefax) (s) (6313)

9.30 The High Life. Comedy series about the cabin crew of an aircraft. (Ceefax) (s) (47394)

10.00 The Day Today. Spoof current affairs (r). (Ceefax) (19023)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (937394)

11.15 Fantasy Football League (s) (641874) **Wales:** Welsh Lobby 11.45 Fantasy Football League *12.15am Duckman* 12.45-1.35 The Fugitive

11.45 Duckman. Adult animation (s) (934597)

12.10am Weather (9250998)

12.15 The Fugitive (b/w) starring David Janssen. (Ceefax) (5219801). Ends at **1.10**

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C



Geoff Hamilton potters in the garden (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Geoff Hamilton's Cottage Gardens
BBC2, 8.30pm

A delightful six-part series from the host of *Gardeners' World* seeks to demonstrate that it is possible to bring a touch of the country to any garden at moderate cost. *Hamilton's approach is partly historical, partly* practical. He goes back into the past to trace the character of the cottage garden, drawing on paintings, folklore and the memories of country people. Romantic myth is tempered by a visit to the Weald and Downland Museum in Sussex to get a taste of what rural life was really like. But at the heart of the series are two gardens Hamilton has created from bare ground. One he calls an artisan's garden, designed to a tight budget. The other is a more lavish affair, such as might have been enjoyed by a Victorian gentleman.

Countrywomen: The Keeper's Dawn
BBC2, 8.00pm

From the team that gave us *Country Men* comes profiles of six women who have distinguished themselves on the rural scene. Dawn Warr is a gamekeeper, which is unusual enough. She also runs a shoot, which is said to make her unique. Since her father and two brothers were gamekeepers, you might think she would have chosen something else. But she *admits that she was a bit of a tomboy and not much* into children, cooking and cleaning. Hence the outdoor life, even if the job is physically demanding and leaves no room for sentimentality. She accepts that animals sometimes have to killed and she knows it is no good shedding tears over them. The film has a sad tailpiece when Warr's job comes to an sudden end.

Short Stories: Are You Being Served?
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Derreck Hart gets a buzz out of doing a job that most of us would probably loathe. It is irresistible material for a documentary and director Bernard Hall does not disappoint. Hart's earlier career *offered no hint that he* would eventually fall on his feet, though parts of it have come in useful, especially his stints as boxer, bouncer and repo man. His official title is process server. This means serving legal papers on behalf of the courts. The recipients are rarely pleased to see him. Verbal abuse is frequent. Hart has also been chased with a shotgun and threatened with knives. He says he loves the excitement and even the danger. He also knows that if the papers are not served, he gets no pay. The camera follows him on his eventful rounds.

Brett Butler: The Child Ain't Right
Channel 4, 10.30pm

The star of BBC2's *Grace Under Fire* returns to her other job of stand-up comic, socking it to an appreciative audience in San Francisco. Sharp eyes will detect a credit for a warm-up man, though Butler is the last performer to need one. Taking the stage in a trouser suit, long blonde hair framing a deceptively benign face, she wins the assembly over by flattery and *then kicks it in the teeth.* She draws her material from life, mostly her own. The delivery is rapid and almost every line has a sting in it. She jokes about her Deep South background, Elvis and Bill Clinton. She is appallingly rude about her first husband, slightly less so about her second. Prepare to be challenged, startled and perhaps offended.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON/LWT

6.00 GMTV (3528435)

9.25 Chain Letters. Word game (4934110) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6025954)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place. Topical discussion series chaired by John Stapleton (s) (9399416)

10.35 This Morning (32237329) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7258684)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (7617042)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). *(Teletext)* (7799961) **1.25 Home and Away.** (Teletext) (34097226)

1.55 Chrystal's Style Guide. Fashions for the younger members of the family (63499810) **2.25 A Country Practice.** *Medical drama series set in the Australian* outback (17029400) **2.50 Take the High Road.** Highland drama (6113961)

3.20 ITN News headlines. (Teletext) (5842232) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5641503)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (s) (5512684) **3.45 Warner Brothers Cartoon** (5517139) **4.00 Zzzap!** (s) (2363139) **4.15 Tiny Toon Adventures** (4470110) **4.40 Virtually Impossible.** Virtual reality television. (Teletext) (s) (3870503)

5.10 After 5 presented by Caron Keating. (Teletext) (6423918)

5.40 Early Evening News *(Teletext) and weather* (846023)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (731508)

6.25 London Tonight with Lindsay Charlton and Fiona Foster. *(Teletext)* (107058)

7.00 Catchphrase. Quiz show introduced by Roy Walker (8936)



Julie Goodyear and Chloe Newsome (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Vicky (Chloe Newsome) finally receives her inheritance and treats Bet (Julie Goodyear), her surrogate grandma. (Teletext) (313)

8.00 The Bill: The Protection Racket. Conway orders the release of a prisoner who is then beaten up. (Teletext) (7684)

8.30 The Upper Hand. Comedy series starring Joe McGann as a home help who is engaged to his employer (Diane Weston). (Teletext) (s) (9619)

9.00 Catherine Cookson's The Glass Virgin. Episode two of the three-part drama starring Emily Mortimer and Nigel Havers. (Teletext) (s) (3787)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (19077)

10.30 FILM: Blind Witness (1989) starring Victoria Principal, Paul Le Mat and Stephen Macht. Thriller about a blind woman's search for her husband's murderer. Directed by Richard Colla (40329400)

12.20am London Tonight (Teletext) (4897559)

12.30 One to One. Gary Davis talks to Chris de Burgh (2768849) **1.05 The James Whale Show** (2548733)

2.05 The Chart Show (s) (5304086)

3.00 Noisy Mothers. *Rock music magazine (s)* (9043882)

3.55 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. Reviews of the latest American releases (9389849)

4.30 The New Music (64608)

5.30 ITN Morning News (50424). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Once Upon A Time — Life (8161684)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (85145)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (23226)

9.30 Stand Still, Be Fit (s). (Teletext) (8952597)

9.45 FILM: London Belongs To Me *(1948) starring* Richard Attenborough, Alastair Sim and Fay Compton. Drama about a young car mechanic whose fellow south London boarding house lodgers rally round when he is accused of murdering a young girl. Directed by Sidney Gilliat (903706)

11.45 Spring Bell. A silent short (9042145)

12.00 Profiles Of Nature: World of the Mountain. The *coasts/ mountains of North America (r)* (28990)

12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series (90329) **1.30 The Magic Roundabout, The Wombles, Paddington** and **Noggin the Nod** (29231801)

1.55 Musical Comedy Greats: Oh Evaline *(1936).* A young man working his way through college attracts animosity when the most popular girl student falls for him. Starring Hal Le Roy and the NY University Glee Club (91383955)

2.20 FILM: Watch Your Stern (1960, b/w) starring Kenneth Connor, Noel Purcell and Leslie Phillips. Nautical farce directed by Gerald Thomas (978435)

3.55 Travelog (r). (Teletext) (s) (3399329)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (226)

5.00 Camargue. The first of a two-part look at the wildlife of southern France's wetlands (r) (s) (1077)

6.00 Blossom *(r). (Teletext) (s)* (619)

6.30 Movievatch. Filmgoers in Newcastle upon Tyne review the latest releases (s) (771)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (962752)

7.50 You Don't Know Me But... A talking calf with a message for the Minister of Agriculture, William Waldegrave (860706)



Process server Derreck Hart (8.00pm)

8.00 [redacted] Short Stories: Are You Being Served? (Teletext) (5226)

8.30 Brookside. *(Teletext) (s)* (5801)

9.00 Ellen. American comedy series starring Ellen DeGeneres. (Teletext) (s) (1481)

9.30 Rising Damp. Classic boarding house comedy *starring Leonard Rossiter as a lascivious landlord* (r). (Teletext) (38890)

10.00 Roseanne. (Teletext) (s) (17619)

10.30 [redacted] Brett Butler: The Child Ain't Right (s) (390329)

11.05 The Word (375145)

12.05am Beavis and Butthead (s) (1831424)

12.35 Gamesmaster Gore Special. Computer games involving blood and violence (2778462)

1.10 FILM: Hard To Handle (1933, b/w) starring James Cagney as a dance contest promoter whose partner makes off with the prize money. Directed by Mervyn LeRoy (8582511)

2.35 FILM: Blonde Crazy (1931, b/w) starring James Cagney and Joan Blondell as a couple who, after being swindled out of $5,000, hatch a plan to retrieve the cash. *Directed by Roy Del Ruth* (1453375). Ends at **4.00**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.55 The Young Doctors (91385313) **2.20** Gardens without Borders (17011481) **2.50-3.20** Wish You Were Here...? (6113961) **3.10-3.40** Shortland Street (6423918) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (107058) **10.40** Carry On Spying (2733508) **12.10am** Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (2922207) **1.00** The New Music (69248) **2.00-3.00** The James Whale Show (77202) **4.00** Cue the Music (69153) **5.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (66240)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (91385313) **2.20** Wish You Were Here...? (17011481) **2.50-3.15** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (7822946) **5.10-5.40** Eye TV (6423918) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (107058) **10.40** Central Weekend (2733508) **12.10am-1.05** Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (9214388) **4.35** Jobfinder (4725580) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2173269)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (7788981) **1.25** Home and Away (51585597) **1.50** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (6860481) **2.50-3.25** Gardeners' Diary (6113961) **3.10-3.40** Take the High Road (6423918) **6.25** Granada Tonight (148416) **6.50** Kick Off (643706) **7.00-7.30** Catchphrase (8936) **10.35** Film: Damien - Omen II (48945058) **12.35am** Love and War (9257268) **1.05** The James Whale Show (2548733) **2.05** Chart Show (5304086) **3.00** Noisy Mothers (9043882) **3.55** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (9389849) **4.30-5.30** The New Music (64608)

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.55 Take the High Road (83468870) **2.25-3.20** Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (5462139) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6423918) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (929) **10.40** Late and Live (2733508) **12.10am-1.05** Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (9214388)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (6025954) **12.20pm-12.25** HTV Wales News and Weather (7258684) **3.25-3.30** HTV News (5641503) **5.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (929) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (788329) **10.40-12.10pm** The Monster Squad (2733508)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (6025954) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (7258684) **1.05** A Country Practice (91385313) **2.20-2.50** Heirloom (17011481) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (5641503) **5.15** Home and Away (6423918) **6.37-6.40** Three Minutes - Your Story (699110) **6.00-7.00** Meridian Tonight (55503) **10.00** News at Ten; Weather (19077) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (788329) **10.40** Sid-Time (505348) **11.10** The Equalizer. (376874) **12.10am-** Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (2922207) **1.00** The New Music (69248) **2.00-3.00** The James Whale Show (77202) **4.00** Cue the Music (69153) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (66240)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (6025954) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (7258684) **12.25-12.30** Westcountry News (7258684) **1.05** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (6860481) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (7822946) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (5641503) **5.15-5.40** House and Away (6423918) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (55503) **10.00** News at Ten; Weather (19077) **10.30** Westcountry News; Weather (788329) **10.40** The Aviator (40325884) **12.30am-1.05** Coach (2788849)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (6025954) **12.20pm-12.30** Calendar News and Weather (7258684) **1.05** A Country Practice (91385313) **2.20-3.10** Murder, She Wrote (5565418) **3.10-3.40** Home and Away (6423918) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (4946561) **6.30-7.00** Cryer's Cackers (325) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (788329) **10.40** Married with Children (505348) **11.10** Bug (134861) **1.00am** The James Whale Show (69248) **2.00** This Big E (4654545) **2.55** The Stalking Moon (8716464) **4.45** Sportswold (18425559) **5.10-5.30** Profile (6193375)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (85145) **8.00** You Bet Your Life (23226) **8.30** Stand Still, Be Fit (8952597) **9.45** London Belongs To Me (92251665) **11.50** *Spring Bell* (8089495) **12.00pm** Profiles Of Nature (28990) **12.30** Sick Mistrish (92231) **1.00** Sesame Street (404331) **2.00** The Battle Of the Sexes (41957) **3.30** Dandel (30249655) **3.55** The Pulse (3899929) **4.30** Saved By The Bell (2256) **5.00** 5 Pump (9062) **5.30** Countdown (706) **6.00** Newyddion (412941) **6.30** Heno (448351) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (2708) **7.30** Rhagor O Wyst (959) **8.00** Cefn Gwlad Ifor Lloyd (52265) **8.30** Newyddion (5991) **9.00** Pawb A'I Fam (108858) **9.45** Out Of Order (485110) **10.00** Bristo Brookside (17619) **10.30** Brett Butler (390329) **11.05** The Word (375145) **12.05am** Beavis And Butt-head (1831424) **12.35** Gamesmaster (9258330) **1.05** Hard To Handle (8582511) **2.35** *Blonde Crazy* (1453375)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat Show (87081416) **7.45** Power Rangers (5125435) **8.25** Dennis (5286961) **8.40** Dynamo Duck (8341495) **8.45** Oprah Winfrey Show (1132464) **9.30** Card Sharks (72058) **10.00** Concentration (47085) **10.30** Candid Camera (52708) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (20232) **12.00** Urban Peasant (43035) **12.30pm** E Street (76874) **1.00** St Elsewhere (71329) **2.00** Heroes (49855) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey Show (90267962) **3.50** DJ Kat Show (17914416) **4.15** Power Rangers (4112868) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1655) **6.00** Gamesworld (3329) **6.30** Blockbusters (4481) **7.00** E Street (2394) **7.30** M*A*S*H (5315) **8.00** Andrew Newton (1042) **8.30** Coppers (3077) **9.00** Chicago Hope (21346) **10.00** *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (24435) **11.00** David Letterman (177110) **11.45** Littlejohn (696866) **12.30am** Chances (49004) **1.30** Night Court (22849) **2.00-6.00** Hitmix (4506086)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7036023) **9.30** Fashion TV (46232) **10.30** ABC Nightline (12955) **11.00** News and Business (526058) **1.30pm** CBS News (35884) **2.30** Parliament Live (48130) **4.00** News and Business (32787) **5.00** Live at Five (7957400) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (16506481) **8.00** News and Business (45481) **9.30** Target (28823) **11.30** CBS Evening News (52413) **12.30am** ABC News (74851772) **1.10** Richard Littlejohn (7078462) **2.30** Parliament Replay (71882) **4.30** CBS Evening News (68022) **5.30-8.00** ABC News (93820)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (2585394) **10.00** Savage Islands (1983). Tommy Lee Jones rescues a damsel in distress (70690) **12.00** Cold River (1982) (14128) **2.00pm** Mr Nanny (1993) (15787) **4.00** Blue Fire Lady (1978) (77778690) **5.45** Mickey (1976) (58589464) **8.00** Mr Nanny (1993) (88199752) **9.40** US Top Ten (742435) **10.00** City of Joy (1992) (82793955) **12.15am** Street Knight (1992) (517172) **1.45** Rolkes Cell (1992) (4296852) **3.30-6.00** The King's Whore (1990) (26511)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm It Came From Outer Space (1953) (93503) **8.00** Jesse James (1939) (57968) **10.00-12.00** Tightrope (1984) (65232)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Pot Carriers (1962) (37329) **8.00** The Magic Riddle (1991) (95056) **10.00** Lifeboat (1944) (69367868) **11.45** Lost Horizon (1937) (26149690) **2.00pm** Baby on Board (1992) (13329) **4.00** The Magic Riddle (1991) (66148706) **6.55** Just My Imagination (1992) (16237771) **7.30** The Movie Show (9503) **8.00** The Last Hit (1993) (25110) **10.00** Best of the Best 2 (1993) (697916) **11.40** Jennifer 8 (1992) (69108822) **1.40am** Noce Blanche (1989) (9527795) **3.30-5.00** The Mambo Kings (1992) (690159)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (1372880) **7.15** WWF Action Zone (734315) **8.15** Soccer News (2378394) **8.30** Extreme (58577) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (27139) **10.00** Transworld Sport (80894) **11.00** Andy Gray's Bootroom (73348) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (98139) **12.30pm** Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (98139) **2.30** World of Rugby Union (8416) **3.00** Snowboard Tour (6329) **3.30** American Sports Cavalcade (83936) **4.30** Transworld Sport (57226) **5.30** World Soccer Magazine (2232) **6.00** Sky Soccer Weekend (15954) **7.00** The Big League, Live: Salford v Warrington (698435) **9.30** Ringside Boxing (51858) **11.00** Sky Soccer Weekend (813135) **12.00** Powerboat World (42808) **1.00-3.00am** US PGA Golf, Live (48443)

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Max Out (6581077) **8.30** NBA Action (9572929) **7.00** Scottish Football, Live (8409400) **10.00-12.00** US PGA Golf, Live (7677787)

EUROSPORT

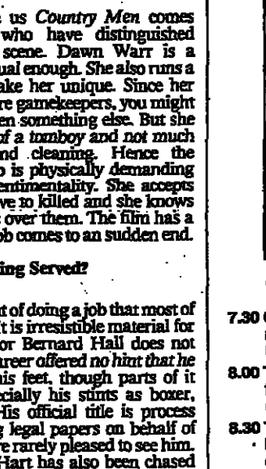
7.30am Rally Raid (66868) **8.00** Eurolun (66348) **8.30** Snowboarding (65619) **9.00** Adventure (11145) **10.00** Triathlon (75752) **11.00** Rally Raid (43042) **11.30** Football (32787) **1.30pm** Drag Racing (15394) **2.00** Tractor Pulling (35893) **3.00** Live Football (21752) **5.00** Live Football (97400) **7.00** Eurosport News (6706) **7.30** International Motorsports Report (35400) **8.30** Rally Raid (4961) **9.00** Boxing (72042) **10.00** Wrestling (55329) **11.00** Wrestling (75481) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (55917)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (2068665) **8.30** Peyton Place (2057398) **9.00** As the World Turns (9972961) **10.00** Guiding Light (4391752) **11.00-12.00** Another World (4494416)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Panama (2061752) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (8377787) **1.00** Pennekamp, Florida (44882232) **1.30** Cooking in America (8376058) **2.00** The Great Escape (5221459) **2.30** The Way of Life — Panama (6580348)



Tyrone Power as Jesse James (Sky Movies Gold, 8.00pm)

3.00 American Vacation (7678416) **4.00** Travel Guide Review (8491400) **4.30** Kids Down Under (8497684) **5.00** The Great Escape (61601121) **5.30-6.00** Pierre Franey's Cooking in America (8488938)

TLC

9.00am A Brush with Ashley (7440597) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (2805023) **10.00** Telling Heads (4530400) **10.30** Only Human (2132752) **11.30** Inside Crime (2365313) **12.00** Forty Something (2881674) **1.00pm** Madeleine Cooks (7672861) **1.30** A Brush with Ashley (2606110) **2.00** Parents Taking (7133333) **2.30** Psychology (7636023) **3.00** Gardens Without Borders (5139918) **3.30-4.00** The Secret Life of Machines (7648868)

UK GOLD

7.00am Blankety Blank (7682348) **7.30** Neighbours (7589855) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7525232) **8.30** EastEnders (7624503) **9.00** The Bill (7442955) **9.30** All Creatures Great and Small (2537077) **10.30** Casualty (2125110) **11.30** Blankety Blank (2367771) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7535619) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2818597) **1.00** EastEnders (7681619) **1.30** The Bill (2817688) **2.00** Dear John (5333351) **2.30** Just Good Friends (7839491) **3.00** Knots Landing (2441767) **4.00** Dynasty (2357394) **5.00** Every Second Counts (3352228) **5.35** Top of the Pops: The 1970s (2232752) **5.55** Porridge (7624597) **6.30** EastEnders (7726690) **7.00** Dear John (7238697) **7.30** Father, Dear Father (7722674) **8.00** My Name is Harry Worth (6989495) **8.30** Fresh Fields (6788992) **9.00** Casualty (9628868) **10.00** The Bill (7538348) **10.30** Top of the Pops (8018665) **11.10** Carrott Confidential (3839823) **11.50** Dr Who: Ghostlight (7017706) **12.20am** FILM: Lifeline to Victory (1993): Second World War drama with Michael Riley (5653714) **2.05** Shopping at Night (28368686)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (9879228) **6.55** Garfield and Friends (3988329) **7.25** Eek the Cat (51911416) **7.55** Pugwall (6480597) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (6636684) **8.45** Casper and Friends (3857139) **9.00** Sesame Street (93145) **10.00** It's Orabbit Time (566519) **12.00** Garfield and Friends (21435) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (67771) **1.00** Bevelly Hills Teens (34085) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (13181351) **1.45** Baby Follies (18131856) **2.00** Barney and Friends (6752) **2.30** Babar (2684) **3.00** Casper (6616145) **3.15** Gravedale High (925688) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (924138) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (4019936) **4.30-5.00** Pugwall (5349)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive (1370232) **7.15** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (118981) **7.45** Rugrats (117232) **8.15** Doug (128868) **8.45** Nickelive (9383665) **9.00** Nick Jr (998674) **12.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (89481) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (28597) **1.00** Galaxy High School (75705) **1.30** Banana Sandwich (28868) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (2936) **2.30** Smoggies (6058) **3.00** Nick Paves (4771) **3.30** Best of Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (1503) **4.00** Doug (7110) **4.30** Rugrats (9894) **5.00** Clarissa (9416) **5.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (3954) **6.00** Grimmy (7787) **6.30-7.00** Dragula (5139)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Earth Tremors (2355936) **5.00** Roger Kennedy's Rediscovering America (4983810) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (2997058) **7.00** Ambulance! (9039869) **7.30** A Traveler's Guide to the Orient (7720418) **8.00** Jurassica (8789477) **8.30** Terra X (8583874) **9.00** The Paradise of Others (4606481) **9.50** Man Eaters of the Wild (7138416) **10.00** Future Quest (7527690) **10.30** Next Step (7430110) **11.00** First Flights (2356665) **11.30-12.00** The X-Planes (4536684)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Daybreak *(1946)* (6468941) **1.30pm** Donny and Marie (2002936) **2.00** The Avengers (4539955) **3.00** My Three Sons (4089494) **3.30** Beverly Hillbillies (7635364) **4.00 FILM: Doomwatch** (1972) (4066400) **6.00** The Protectors (7737106) **6.30** Edgar Wallace (2712394) **7.30** Sabar of London (7644042) **8.00** Avengers (9625400) **9.00** Twilight Zone (9613936) **10.00-12.00 FILM: Next Stop Greenwich Village** (1976) (2362226)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (2591936) **7.00** Living Magazine (2867674) **8.00** Rosemary Conley (1127400) **8.15** Everyday Yoga (1117023) **8.30** The Truth About Women (7706481) **9.00** Marco (4923481) **9.35** Now You See It (7380961) **10.00** Trivia Trap (4760110) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (7891145) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3704503) **12.00** Rendezvous (7719597) **12.30pm** Kilroy (9190885) **1.30** Family Affairs (4452762) **2.00** Agony Hour (4778139) **3.00** Living Magazine (4712313) **3.45** Gladrags (87116228) **4.00** Inflatation (5808329) **4.30** Trivia Trap (10942771) **4.55** Eating Out (2508110) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5715885) **6.00** The Susan Powter Show (5817706) **6.30** New Mr and Mrs Show (5800058) **7.00** Living Magazine (8043901) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (3111351) **9.00 FILM: The Choice** (1981) (43390481) **10.55** It Could Happen to You (7076955) **11.00** The

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Defeat leaves Atherton's side with no part to play in World Series Cup finals

Second-string Australians foil England

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA's young bloods gave the depleted England side what amounted to a start here yesterday and still pipped them to the finals of the World Series Cup. There they will meet their elder brethren, the Australian first XI, in the best of three matches, the first of them in Sydney on Sunday.

Although Australia A made 264 for five from their 50 overs, England needed only 237 to become finalists themselves, this having to do with the run-rate over the competition as a whole. Australia's victory left them level on points with England and their splendid total was sufficient to give them a microscopic advantage on the count-back. They deserved it, too.

In certain respects, England were outplayed. Australia averaged more than five runs an over without Ponting, the batsman many believe to be the best of their younger school, getting to the wicket until their innings was virtually over. None of Australia's first six batsmen was genuinely got out. I am not sure that any of them was properly beaten, and yet the oldest is only 24. On a pitch of plate-glass perfection they played with the dash and confidence and gusto of a sunshine race — and with good technique to boot.

In the field there must have been a difference between the sides of a run an over, and not that many fewer between the wickets. Hughes, with his comparatively leaden step, would have looked more at home in the England side. That England in the end got as near as they did owed as much to their tail as to the earlier batsmen. Some lusty hitting by Rhodes, DeFreitas, Lewis and Udal left them needing eight off the last over to reach the finals, and three off the last ball, bowled by Reiffel to Fraser. In a sense it could be seen as a triumph for the handicapper.

The sides were dressed up like fruit machines. The clothes they are made to wear for these matches get more and more vulgar. England gave Lewis his first game of cricket since last September, preferring him to Malcolm and Benjamin. Long before the lights were switched on, under a cloudless sky, there were nearly 40,000 people packed into the ground, and they loved what they saw. Knowing that they needed to win by a widish margin if they were to reach the finals, the Australians went for their strokes right from the start.

It was a fiercely testing afternoon for Atherton. He had Lewis and DeFreitas to turn twos into ones and several others who were more likely to turn ones into twos or threes. All things considered, I thought the captain made just about all he could have done of a difficult job. For all but the last two balls of Australia's innings he had to contend with a right-hander and a left-hander batting together, young shavers out to run England off their feet.

Australia lost two wickets in the first hour, both from hard hits that chanced to go straight to a fielder. In the eighth over, Hayden drilled DeFreitas to Gooch at mid-on; in the fifteenth, Martyn found Thorpe at extra cover. Blewett and Bevan then added 161 in 28 overs. Blewett fairly flew between the wickets. His father, Bob, who captained South Australia, was the dourest of batsmen; Greg is more than making up for it. His 113 came off 133 balls. As early as the fifth over of the day, he sent for a cap and got rid of his helmet, as though he had already seen the signs.

In nine previous innings against Atherton's side, Bevan had a best score of only 46. Yesterday he showed what he can do. About average height and left-handed, he hits the ball in slightly unexpected directions, partly because he has the eye to do so. When he drove a return catch to Udal, he had made 105 in 102 balls. There were 108 singles in Australia's innings, so quick and eager were they to see them.

Atherton and Gooch gave England a flying start. Hughes's first three overs went for 23 runs and in seven overs the score reached 40, one glorious cover drive from Gooch raising hopes that the clouds might be lifting from his head. But by the end of the fourteenth over, England were 55 for two, both openers having been caught at the wicket trying to press on. In fact, the momentum was quite lost. Hick made a rather deliberate 35, Thorpe a somewhat nonchalant 24. The next to show real urgency was Gatting, who prodded Crawley into action before the dreaded Darrell Hair sent him on his way.

That was 143 for five with 50 overs left and England needing another 94 runs, not to win the match but to reach the finals. The rest was a mixture of despair, delight and pandemonium, of wild hitting, frantic running, ringing strokes and falling wickets. For obvious commercial reasons the Australian Cricket Board must have wanted England to win. But Hair was a problem they had not taken into account — and England now have nine days to put their feet up, play some golf, think of home and ponder the two remaining Test matches. They are next in action, against Victoria, in Bendigo a week tomorrow.

DETAILS

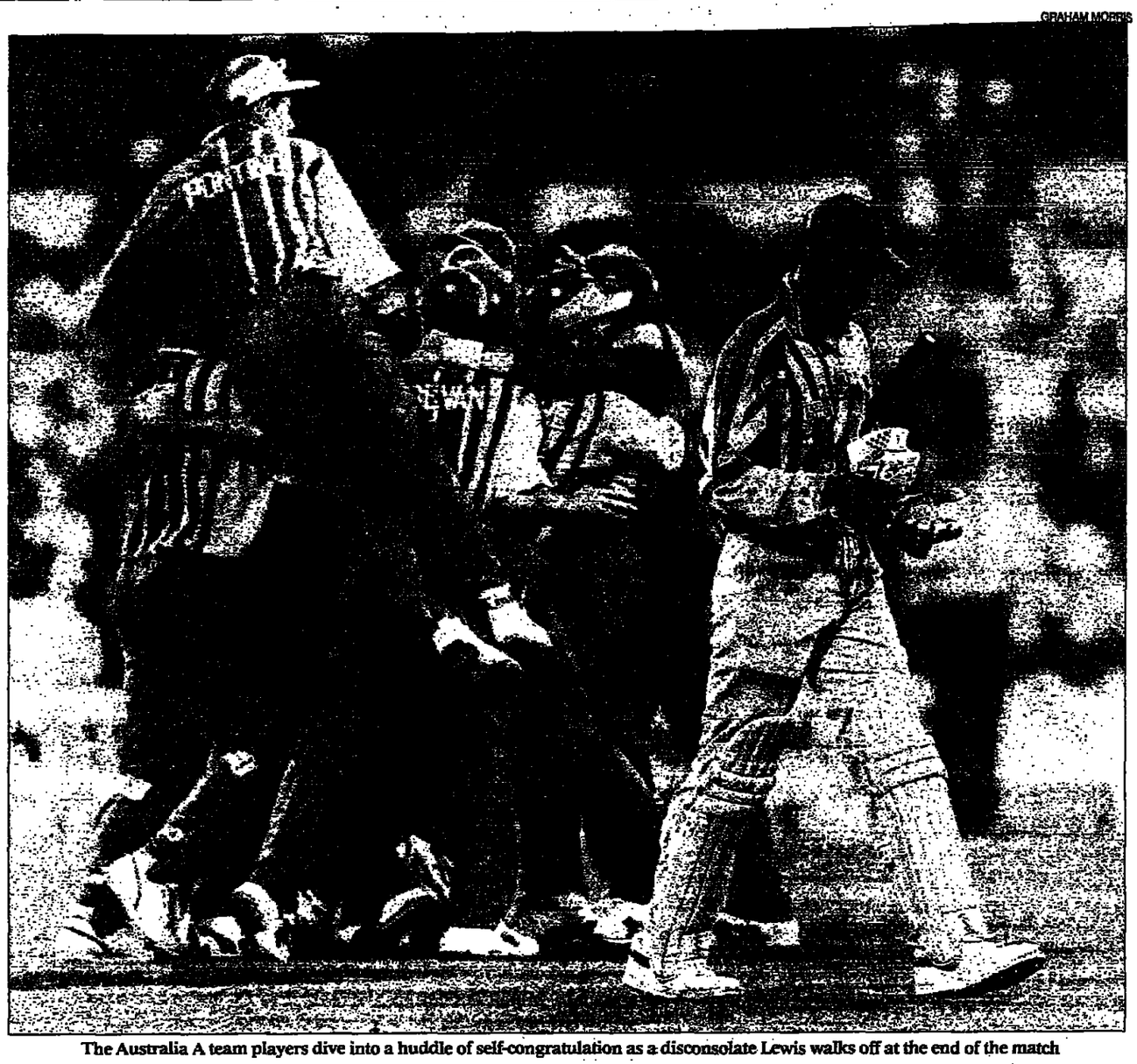
	P	W	L	Pts	NRR
Australia	6	5	1	10	0.43
Australia A	6	3	3	6	0.09
England	6	3	3	6	0.08
Zimbabwe	6	1	5	2	-0.59

NRR = net run-rate

RESULTS: Dec 2: Australia bt Zimbabwe by 2 wkts (Perth). Dec 4: Australia A bt Zimbabwe by 5 wkts (Perth); Dec 6: Australia bt England by 28 runs (Sydney); Dec 8: Australia bt Zimbabwe by 84 runs (Hobart), Dec 10: Australia A bt Zimbabwe by 7 wkts (Adelaide). Dec 11: Australia bt Australia A by scr runs (Adelaide); Dec 13: England bt Australia A by 31 runs (Melbourne) Dec 15: Zimbabwe bt England by 13 runs (Sydney). Jan 7: England beat Zimbabwe by 26 runs (Brisbane). Jan 8: Australia beat Australia A by 34 runs (Brisbane). Jan 10: England beat Australia by 37 runs (Melbourne) Jan 12: Australia A beat England by 29 runs.

FINALS: Jan 15: first final (Sydney). Jan 17: second final (Melbourne); Jan 19: third final (Melbourne, if required).

GRAHAM MORRIS



The Australia A team players dive into a huddle of self-congratulation as a disconsolate Lewis walks off at the end of the match

SCOREBOARD FROM SYDNEY

Australia A won toss

AUSTRALIA A

M L Hayden c Gooch b DeFreitas (30min, 21 balls)	4
G S Blewett c Thorpe b Lewis (174min, 133 balls, 8 fours)	113
*D R Martyn c Thorpe b Lewis (32min, 24 balls, 1 four)	13
M G Bevan c and b Udal (145min, 102 balls, 1 five, 6 fours)	105
J L Langer c Gooch b Udal (21min, 12 balls, 2 fours)	16
R T Ponting not out (13min, 7 balls)	6
†P A Emery not out (1min, 1 ball)	0
Extras (lb 7)	7
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs, 210min)	*264*

P E McIntyre, M G Hughes, P R Reiffel and S P George did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11 (Blewett 7), 2-46 (Blewett 29), 3-207 (Bevan 71), 4-245 (Bevan 93), 5-262 (Ponting 5).

BOWLING: Fraser 10-1-36-0 (8-1-14-0, 4-0-22-0); DeFreitas 10-2-43-1 (7-2-25-1, 2-0-15-0, 1-0-3-0); Lewis 6-0-48-2 (3-0-21-1, 3-0-27-1); Udal 10-0-56-2 (5-0-23-0, 3-0-18-0, 2-0-15-2); Hick 8-0-40-0 (5-0-22-0, 3-0-18-0); Gooch 8-0-34-0 (3-0-16-0, 3-0-18-0).

ENGLAND

G A Gooch c Emery b Hughes (57min, 36 balls, 2 fours)	17
*M A Atherton c Emery b Reiffel (32min, 21 balls, 3 fours)	20
G A Hick b McIntyre (71min, 47 balls, 4 fours)	35
G P Thorpe c Reiffel b McIntyre (54min, 44 balls)	24
J P Crawley c Emery b George (67min, 47 balls, 4 fours)	37
M W Gatting lbw b Hughes (26min, 25 balls)	15
†S J Rhodes c George b McIntyre (34min, 29 balls, 2 fours)	23
C C Lewis not out (49min, 25 balls, 1 four)	22
P A J DeFreitas b Blewett (23min, 14 balls, 2 fours)	12
S D Udal lbw b Reiffel (14min, 11 balls, 1 four)	9
A R C Fraser not out (4min, 2 balls)	1
Extras (lb 13, w 7)	20
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs, 221min)	235

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40 (Gooch 15), 2-55 (Hick 13), 3-100 (Thorpe 20), 4-105 (Crawley 1), 5-143 (Crawley 20), 6-179 (Rhodes 19), 7-187 (Lewis 0), 8-215 (Lewis 13), 9-232 (Lewis 21).

BOWLING: Hughes 8-0-43-2 (nb 1, w 3, 3-0-23-0, 2-0-10-1, 3-0-10-1); Reiffel 10-2-42-2 (w 2, 8-2-12-1, 4-0-30-1); Blewett 8-0-44-1 (2-0-17-0, 4-0-17-0, 2-0-10-1); George 10-1-33-1 (w 2, 6-1-17-0, 3-0-14-1, 1-0-2-0); McIntyre 10-0-45-3 (8-0-35-2, 2-0-10-1); Martyn 4-0-15-0 (one spell).

Match award: G S Blewett.
Umpires: D B Hair and T A Prue.
Replay umpire: W A Cameron
Compiled by Bill Frindall

Captain puts blame on shortcomings in field

MICHAEL ATHERTON, the England captain, yesterday blamed poor fielding and injuries for his side's failure to reach the World Series Cup finals.

"We didn't perform as well in the field and that tends to count in one-day games," he said. "We gave away too many runs and paid too high a price for victory the other night."

He was referring to the loss of Darren Gough and Neil Fairbrother, who were injured in the defeat of Australia in Melbourne on Tuesday. "That made a big difference to our side — and that's not trying to make excuses."

Atherton's remaining target is to level the Ashes series, in which England are 2-0 down. "We've a week to go before our next game. We're going to go to Melbourne and take two or three days' rest before practising for the four-day game against Victoria starting next Friday. Then we must try to get something out of the last two Tests."

Work permit delay puts Yeboah's arrival on ice



Yeboah: German success

Rob Hughes, football correspondent, is unconcerned that the Leeds debut of another imported talent has been held up

While everyone is either bewitched or bothered by Andy Cole's £7 million move to Old Trafford, a hitch concerning another big transfer could hold at least equal significance for English football.

Anthony Yeboah, the Ghanaian striker who was due to be at Elland Road, after a £3.4 million agreement between Leeds United and Eintracht Frankfurt, will not now be coming until the Department of Employment has issued a work permit. Yeboah cannot be doubted as a striker. He has netted 30 goals in his past 36 Bundesliga appearances and has no peer among foreign players in Germany. He could not meet greater xenophobia here than he conquered in Frankfurt.

However, the department has advised Leeds not to bring him here while the permit is under consideration. The department, which is advised on imported players by the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), has already allowed in 150 players from almost 40 nations.

It would be foolish to think that some do not lift the game here: Jürgen Klinsmann is flowering where Osvaldo Ardiles did before him; Eric Cantona is essential to Manchester United. However, there must be concern that both Leeds and Yeboah have sought release clauses in their deal in case either of them becomes dissatisfied within the year.

With such doubts, with evidence aplenty that players brought in on the whim of one manager are discarded by the next, who can blame the department or the PFA for being cautious? Just before Christmas, two chairmen, Alan Sugar, of Tottenham Hotspur, and Peter Johnson, of Everton, were comforting each other because, having dismissed their team managers, the replacements had no time for £2.6 million Ilie Dumitrescu or £3 million Daniel Amokachi.

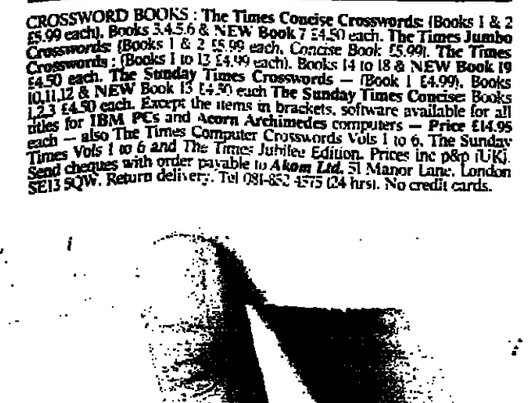
Dumitrescu has been dispatched by Spurs on loan to Seville; Amokachi may yet shine here as bright as the diamond in his left ear. Meanwhile, a third revolving door, the dismissal of Aston Villa's Ron Atkinson, has meant that Nii Lamptey, a £1.3 million gamble, is unwanted by Aston Villa.

The flights of fantasy of men on the managerial misery-go-round threaten the English market to the tune of millions of pounds, millions which, unlike the Cole money, is irretrievable once it leaves England's swirl.

Besides, does nobody have a place in their team for the home-grown talent of Bradley Allen? Seemingly surplus to requirements at Queens Park Rangers, he is a goalscorer whose pedigree was much coveted in his youth and is barely on the cusp of manhood.

Coca-Cola Cup draw, page 36

AND·SO·TO·BED
The Complete Bedroom Shop
Bedsteads
Antique
Wood
e.g. 5'0" She
Antique
New
Divan & Matt
Furnit
638/640 Kings Road, London SW6
0171 731 3593
5 The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells
01892 515099



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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD
No 368

ACROSS
1 In prison (6,4)
9 Refrain (from); keep apart (4,3)
10 Musical drama (5)
11 Second-hand (4)
12 Violently collapsed inwards (8)
14 Removing, losing moisture (6)
15 Command, require (6)
18 Sequential cycle; crop system (8)
20 Nautical pole (4)
22 Come to maturity (5)
23 Mishmash (7)
24 Meandering; a greenish rock (10)

DOWN
2 God of Love (4)
3 Notoriety (6)
4 Showing infatuation; slobbering (8)
5 In front (5)
6 Space, but not to sit (8,4)
7 Hold rifle at slope, butt in hand (8,4)
8 Ready for bed (6)
13 Example (8)
16 Parentless child (6)
17 Under-surface of arch, beam, etc (6)
19 Become narrower (5)
21 Food of grain husks (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 367

ACROSS: 1 Debilitated 8 Roman 9 Concuss 10 Skim 11 Filament 13 Trophy 14 Rumpus 17 Agnostic 19 Tiff 22 Caveman 23 Eclat 24 Long-delayed

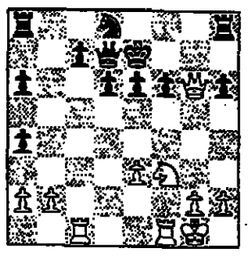
DOWN: 1 Darts 2 Bambino 3 Lank 4 Tactic 5 Tantalus 6 Daube 7 As it is 12 Chessmen 13 Trance 15 Paisley 16 Pinned 18 Novel 20 Feted 21 Heel

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Staunton - Jaenisch, *London 1851.*

In this position, White used one of his pieces as a suicide bomber to prise open the black position. What did he play?



Solution, page 36
Raymond Keene, page 6

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ACROPHOBIA
a. Horror of spiders
b. The approach to the Acropolis
c. Dread of heights

GEMELLION
a. A yearling colt
b. A basin
c. French Revolutionary month

CULICIFUGE
a. A midge-repellant
b. Dislike of cucumbers
c. Cowardly

BUNCO
a. A card swindle
b. Bunkum and balderdash
c. A doughnut with syrup

Answers on page 36